



OUR CITY AND ITS PEOPLE

A DESCRIPTIVE WORK ON

THE CITY OF ROME

NEW YORK

EDITED BY

DANIEL E. WAGER

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PREFACE.

All persons into whose hands this volume will be delivered are familiar with the fact that during its compilation, its author, the late Daniel E. Wager, was stricken with death. It is fortunate for those who will peruse these pages that his work thereon was nearly completed when his summons came. The arrangement of the matter and the preparation of some of the chapters was necessarily left for other hands; but the chief historical part of the work, and that which had demanded from Mr. Wager an astonishing amount of research, was finished. It is entirely safe to say, and it is due to his memory to record it here, that no other similar city has had so much intelligent labor bestowed upon the preparation of its early history; it may also be truly said that no other person could so well have performed the task for Rome.

The names of the very many who have kindly aided in the gathering of facts for the preparation of the history of the city in more recent times, its institutions and industries, cannot be even mentioned here; it would embrace all the city officials, pastors of churches, proprietors of manufactories, and heads of families almost without number, and a general expression of gratitude for such aid must suffice. But it is proper to state that the complete account of the Masonic Order was

written by Mr. O. P. Backus, whose time was fully given also to intelligent criticism of other parts of the work.

The portraits and biographies in the volume were without exception approved by Mr. Wager, and they add to the value and attractiveness of the work. It is believed that, as a whole, this history of Rome will meet a welcome reception.

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OUR CITY AND ITS PEOPLE.

CHAPTER I.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

It is undoubtedly true that no limited section of the great Empire State is richer in historical materials and memories than the one of which this volume treats. Far back in the past it was most important from a military point of view, while in the struggle of the American colonies for independence it was the theater of events which exerted a powerful influence in attaining the success that marked the final culmination of that contest. All of the memorable events of the long period of strife from 1754 to the close of the Revolutionary war have been adequately described in Chapters II to VI inclusive of Volume I of this work. Our present purpose is, therefore, to follow in detail the history of this locality from that time to the present. It is essential, however, to a clear understanding of the record of later events, to refer again to the settlement at or near the site of Fort Stanwix prior to the Revolution of John Roof and his family; and the reader will also be aided greatly by reference to the accompanying plan of the siege of Fort Stanwix, particularly in studying the account of the early settlements thereabouts.

It is quite clearly settled that John Roof (originally Johannis Reuff) settled at Fort Stanwix in 1760. That was two years after the fort was built. Here Mr. Reuff resided from that time until driven out, with several other families, by the siege of Fort Stanwix in 1777. The Reuff

family then located at Canajoharie. Mr. Philip Roof, an intelligent gentleman, a grandson of Johannes Reuff, furnished interesting facts concerning the births and names of the first white children in what is now Oneida County. On his summer visit to the old home at Canajoharie, he found in possession of a great-granddaughter of Mr. Reuff an old deed, bearing date May 2, 1778, from George Schimling to said Johannes Reuff, conveying 659 acres of land. This deed covered the old homestead of Colonel John Roof (son of Johannes), and also the same land on which the village of Canajoharie now stands. The date of this deed shows the purchase was made in the spring of the next year, after the destruction of Mr. Reuff's property at Fort Stanwix, and when he and his family were driven away from this fort. Mr. Roof writes that on the back of this deed is a record, in the handwriting of Johannes Reuff, of the names, places, and times of the birth of his children. The writing, by reason of age, has become quite indistinct to the naked eye, but by the aid of a magnifying glass it can be deciphered. It is supposed that this record was made on the back of the deed in consequence of the loss of the family Bible, which contained the original record at the time the Reuff family were driven from Fort Stanwix. The list, as copied from the back of that deed, reads as follows :

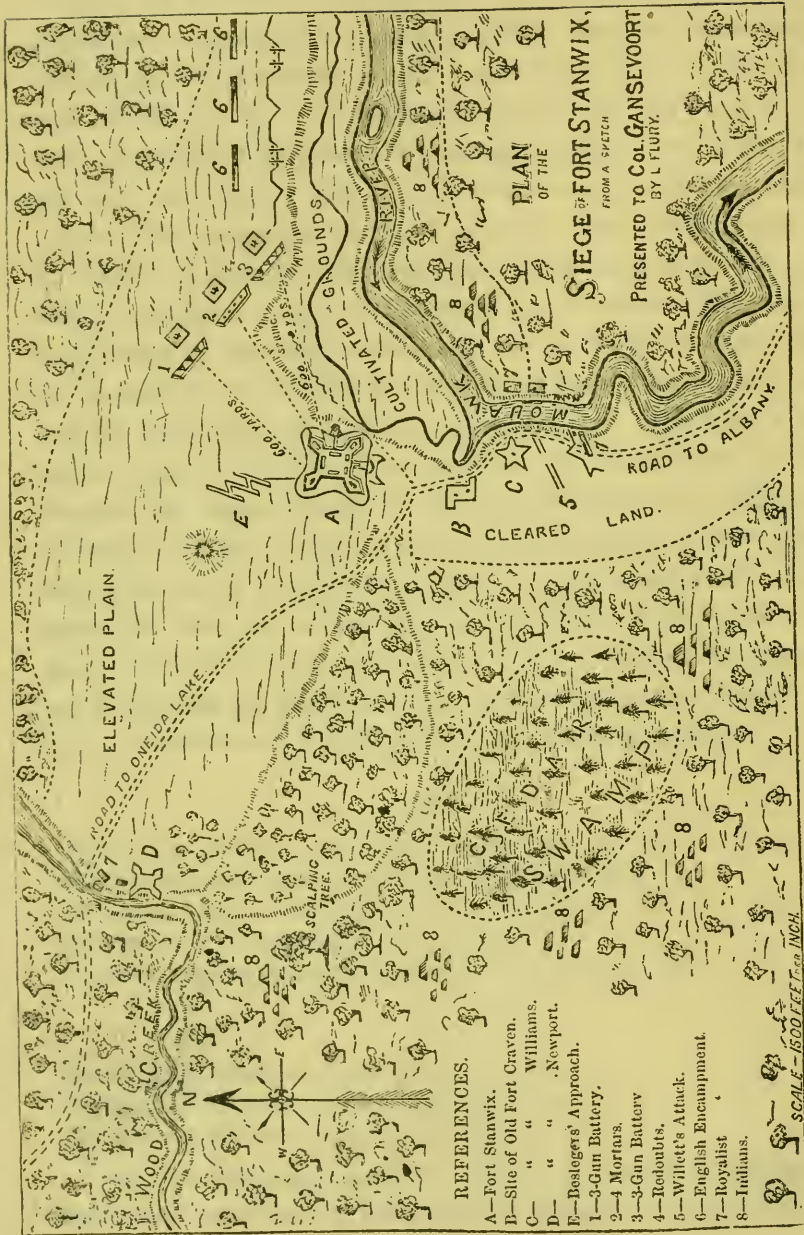
Fort Stanwix.

- My first son, John Roof, was born the 28th of August, 1762.
- My first daughter, Susannah, was born 9th August, 1766.
- My second daughter, Barbara, was born 30th October 1771.
- My second son, Adam, was born 16th May, 1773.
- My third daughter, Mary (or Maria), was born 5th April, 1777.

Canajoharie.

- My third son, Daniel, was born 8th March, 1779.
- My fourth son, Martyn, was born 19th April, 1783.
- My fifth son, Andrew, was born 1st July, 1785.

From the foregoing, positive evidence is furnished that five of the Roof family were born at Fort Stanwix during the seventeen years that



REFERENCES.

- A—Fort Stanwix.
- B—Site of Old Fort Craven.
- C— " " Williams.
- D— " " Newport.
- E—Dealers' Approach.
- 1—3-Gun Battery.
- 2—4 Mortars.
- 3—3-Gun Battery
- 4—Redoubts.
- 5—Willett's Attack.
- 6—English Encampment.
- 7—Royalist
- 8—Indians.

SCALE - 1500 FEET - 1 INCH.

her shoulder and the blood streaming down her person. The other two girls were found shot and scalped, one of them dead, and the other died soon after being taken into the fort. The savages who fired the shots fled into the woods and escaped. One of the girls who was killed was a young lady twenty years old, named Katy Steers, and the daughter of a man living at that time in the neighborhood of the fort."

NOTE.—According to the records the "Scalping tree," some distance west of the Fort, received its name from the following circumstance: "Three little girls went out to pick berries. While thus engaged, about one hundred rods from the fort, the reports of four guns were heard in quick succession, and a party of soldiers hastening to the spot, met one of the girls returning

family were residing here, before the siege of Fort Stanwix; one of them but a few months before the siege commenced.

This Philip Roof was a grandson of Martyn, above named. It will be remembered that at the time the Reuff family resided at Fort Stanwix there were four other families residing here, viz., Bartholomew Brodock, William Klein, Thomas Mayers, and —Steers. Unto one or more of those families children were born at Fort Stanwix, before the Revolutionary war. The daughter of Mr. Steers was the one who was shot and scalped while outside the fort blackberrying a few days before the siege commenced. Descendants of that Brodock family are yet residents of Rome.

Early in the year 1789 Thomas and Ebenezer Wright, sr., brothers, Willett Ranney, sr., and Bill Smith came to Fort Stanwix from Connecticut; they were all connected by marriage and probably came together. The two Wrights and Mr. Ranney had married three sisters, the Misses Butler of Connecticut, and Bill Smith married a daughter of Mr. Ranney. At the time of their settlement Thomas Wright, the elder brother, had ten children, Ebenezer Wright, sr., had six children (the eldest one twenty years old and the youngest five). Mr. Ranney had nine children, all grown to maturity, and most if not all of them married. Bill Smith had two children and another was born to him in February, 1789, soon after his arrival.

The Oneida county records show that in June, 1789, Sylvester Dering of Suffolk county conveyed to Seth Ranney, son of Willett, sr., 100 acres of land in what became Wright Settlement and which constituted the farm on which D. W. Knight resided in recent years. Mr. Dering had purchased that farm and other lands of William Floyd, one of the owners of Fonda's Patent, a few months earlier. We have not been able to ascertain that a conveyance to an actual settler in what is now Rome bears an earlier date than this deed to Mr. Ranney. Those four families remained at the fort the first year after their arrival, cultivating

small pieces of ground on the adjacent clearing, and in the mean time making an opening in the woods at Wright Settlement where they had taken up land.

In the following year, 1790, there was a great rush of immigrants from the east to Fort Stanwix. The number was greater than in any previous year and possibly in any later year, if we may judge by the number of leases granted to persons who became actual settlers. While the system of leasing land which prevailed at that time was most objectionable, in many ways, it still possessed an attraction to immigrants who had little money to pay down for land. Whether David I. Andrus and Nathaniel Gilbert (noticed further on) came in 1789 or 1790 cannot now be learned. Quite likely they came in 1789, with or soon after the Ranney family, for both married daughters of Willett Ranney, sr.

During the year 1790 all the lands of Wright Settlement, the Selden neighborhood, and most of the territory north of the Ridge to the town line was leased and taken up by actual settlers. Most of these leases bear date of June 4, 1790, and were granted to the persons and include land, as follows:

Seth Ranney, in addition to his before-named purchase, leased of George Clinton 249 acres extending from the Mohawk River easterly and including the farms of the late Andred Vredenburgh and W. K. Reese.

David I. Andrus leased of Mr. Clinton 138 acres next north of Seth Ranney. The road crossing the river at the Ridge going easterly to Wright Settlement was the northern boundary of that 138 acres.

Nathaniel Gilbert leased of Mr. Clinton 100 acres next north of Mr. Andrus.

Roswell Fellows leased of Mr. Clinton 100 acres directly west of Mr. Gilbert's above described tract, and extending to the river. If Mr. Fellows ever resided on the farm he did not remain long, for the county records show that on June 17, 1790, he leased 200 acres on the road

from Rome to Delta, located there, and lived there twenty five years and there died.

Ebenezer Wright, jr., leased of Mr. Clinton 196 acres next north of Nathaniel Gilbert's tract and extending to the river; it included the farm and residence afterwards occupied by his son, E. W. Wright.

Willett Ranney, jr. leased of Mr. Clinton the 100 acres next north of Mr. Wright, just described, and constituting the farm which subsequently passed to and was long owned by John Butts. Directly west of this last described farm, Benjamin Gilbert leased 100 acres.

John Wright, son of the pioneer Thomas Wright, leased of Mr. Clinton 100 acres on Penny street, which is the road leading through the Selden neighborhood to the covered bridge over the Mohawk. That farm embraced the fifty acres east of the highway and afterwards known as the Gates place and fifty acres west of the highway known many years ago as the Waters place and later as the Henry Dopp farm.

Moses Wright, brother of the last mentioned John Wright, leased of Mr. Clinton the 100 acres next north, which farm was afterwards owned by Silas Wightman.

Asa Knapp leased the 100 acres next north of Moses Wright, where afterwards resided Roswell Edgerton and later Asa Fuller and still later Philemon and Philander Selden.

Jasper French leased of John Lansing, jr., the 100 acres next north on the east side of the highway, and which was afterwards divided and a part became the residence of Thomas Selden and part the residence of Joseph Otis. The 100 acres just west of this French lease and including the farm afterwards owned by Jesse Childs was leased to Elijah Weeks.

Elijah Root leased the 100 acres next north, and adjoining him on the north was Chester Gould's lease; these leases embracing the farms afterwards owned by George, Daniel and John Ashby and Samuel and Daniel W. Lamb and all the lands east of the river at that point, and down to the covered bridge.

On the 17th of June, 1790, Mr. Lansing leased 159 acres at the Ridge to Elisha Walsworth, father of the late Elisha Walsworth, and on the same day leased 160 acres north of it to Jonathan French and Benjamin Gilbert.

Dyer McComber leased the 100 acres next north on June 4, 1791, which afterwards became the Isham Simonds farm and later the residence of the late John H. Wilcox; on the same day Abner Pitcher leased the farm owned in recent years by H. L. Adams. All the remainder of the lands to the town line, except the Fellows farm and a 100 acre tract leased a few years later, were leased the same day, which indicates how rapidly the territory in that part of the town was taken up in 1790 and 1791.

To the foregoing list of the settlers in that part of Rome may be added the following who came in prior to 1800: Jesse Childs came about 1792 and settled in the Selden neighborhood, near the river. Joseph Otis came in 1793 and settled on the farm occupied in recent years by A. M. Potter. William West came in 1793 and bought out the before described lease of David I. Andrus. Edward Simons in 1793 owned and lived on a farm of 310 acres south of the late A. Vredenburg residence; in 1796 he sold fifty acres to John Simons and sixty acres to Jonathan Brainard, who was the father of Jephtha Brainard. Asa Fuller lived on the Asa Knapp place prior to 1795, and about that year it was taken by Roswell Edgerton. About 1795 Daniel W. Lamb, John and Daniel Ashby located near the covered bridge. At about the same time Thomas Selden lived on the hill where Alexander Coventry resided in recent years.

In 1795 Cornelius Van Wormer resided on the John Butts place, and not long after that Zaccheus Abell, brother-in-law of D. W. Knight, lived on top of Canterbury hill on the east side of the highway. About that time Abiather Seckill resided east of Grant Wheat's old residence, and Peter Lampman, "Pigeon" Palmer, and Luke Usher lived near the

covered bridge. In 1796 Rufus Barnes located on Penny street on what was afterwards known as the Whittlesy place. About 1800 John Ely located near the big gulf north of the Butts neighborhood, where Daniel Kirkland and Thomas Jewett afterwards resided. In the same year Benjamin Raymond bought ninety acres of the Ed. Simons farm and lived on the site where Joseph Briggs, Jacob Tibbetts and C. D. Denio afterwards resided. Many of these are more definitely mentioned further on.

The sons of Ebenezer Wright, sr., were Ebenezer, jr., Benjamin, Allen, William, and Joseph Butler; of these Ebenezer, jr., and his brother Allen turned their attention to farming; William was a merchant in his early life in Rome and Pulaski; Benjamin became conspicuous as a surveyor and engineer and is entitled to more extended notice. He came to Fort Stanwix in 1790 when twenty years old. His father's family had located in the previous year at what is known as Wright Settlement, leaving Benjamin behind in Connecticut to finish his studies in surveying. From 1796 to 1800 he was engaged in surveying in what are now Franklin, Jefferson, Lewis, Oneida, Oswego and St. Lawrence counties. In what was then Oneida county he laid out over 500,000 acres into farms before he was twenty-six years old. Mr. Wright ran for Assembly in 1804 on the Aaron Burr ticket in the gubernatorial contest between the latter and Morgan Lewis; Mr. Wright's opponent was Gen. Walter Martin of Martinsburg. Without counting the vote of the town of Adams, then in Oneida county, the vote was a tie between those two men; in Adams thirty-four votes were cast, all of them for "Benj. Wright," and the question arose as to whether they should be counted for Benjamin Wright. When the facts were communicated to the Assembly on the second day of its session, the seat was given to Mr. Wright. He was the first Roman elected to the Assembly after the organization of Oneida county. Mr. Wright ran again for Assembly in 1807 and 1808 and was successful. About that time

the Erie Canal question became conspicuous before the public and Mr. Wright became one of its most ardent and influential advocates. When the time arrived for making the first survey for the canal, Mr. Wright and James Geddes were employed to do the work. In 1813 Mr. Wright was appointed one of the judges of the Common Pleas, and in 1817 was defeated in his candidacy for the Assembly. He was a partner in mercantile pursuits in Rome from 1804 to 1817, at first with Peter Colt and later with his own brother, William Wright. He removed to New York about 1825 and died there.

The elder Ebenezer Wright was a man of strong character and endowed with energy and perseverance. In 1794 he was an assistant justice of the peace; was foreman of the grand jury in 1798, and in 1790 was one of the assessors of the town of Whitestown. He died in 1808 aged sixty-six years. Thomas Wright, brother of Ebenezer, sr, devoted much of his attention to his farm, but also became interested in other pursuits. He and his sons built across the Mohawk at the Ridge the first dam there, and on the west side of the river they built before 1800 a grist mill and saw mill. Not far from the same time, at the covered bridge higher up the stream, John Barnard erected mills which were long known by his name. Thomas Wright was overseer of the poor of the town of Steuben, 1793-95, while Rome was a part of that town, and in 1796-99 held the same position in the town of Rome. He died in March, 1812, and his farm was afterwards owned by his sons, Joseph, Ebenezer and John. His other sons were Moses, Thomas Wright, jr., and Allen. Of these, Moses Wright became almost as celebrated as a surveyor as his cousin Benjamin. He laid out many of the early roads in this section; and in 1797 surveyed the Holland Patent. About 1790 he built the frame dwelling at the Ridge, afterwards known as the Wardwell place. In 1807 he bought of Henry Huntington 158 acres on the Turin road. He settled on that farm and lived in a log house which stood near the "Fish Pond" and on which stream then stood a distillery, erected some years earlier.

The sons of William Ranney, sr., were Seth, James, Willett, jr., and Butler. It has already been stated that Seth Ranney purchased 100 acres in June, 1789, in Wright Settlement, which he sold a year later to the father of D. W. Knight. The indications are that Seth Ranney never lived at Wright Settlement. In the old account books of George Huntington & Co., opposite Seth Ranney's account are the words "Canada Creek," thus indicating that he then resided in the west part of what is now Rome. He probably left this section within a few years. James Ranney, son of Willett, sr., removed to Adams, Jefferson county, about 1806. Butler Ranney removed to Redfield, Oswego county, about 1808 and later during the war of 1812 to Adams where he kept a public house, and still later to Watertown. Willett Ranney, jr., probably removed to Saratoga county in the first year of the present century. His sons were Anton, John, Orville and Lester.

Col. Daniel Whitman Knight, sr., was born in Lisbon, Conn., in 1764 and purchased of Seth Ranney in 1790, as before noticed, building a log house near where George Wheat lived in recent years. They removed, however, to the foot of Canterbury hill where he purchased 100 acres in the southwest corner of lot 48, Fonda's Patent, and which included the homestead of his son, Deacon D. W. Knight. Mr. Knight's latter purchase was an absolute deed free from all future rents, and he proceeded with his native industry to clear up his land and create a permanent and attractive home. There he resided forty years of his life and died March 31, 1830. He was commissioner of highways in 1793, assessor of Rome in 1798, and commissioned one of the justices of the peace upon the formation of Oneida county. He had six children, of whom David, Clark, and Daniel Whitman were the sons. The latter married a daughter of Joshua Kirkland; resided most of his life on the homestead where he was born and was an honorable and useful citizen.

The longevity of some of the persons above named is somewhat re-

markable and worthy of note; and it is also worth while to call attention to the fact that about every man above named was the father of quite a large family. For instance: Thomas Wright was the father of ten children, Ebenezer Wright, sr., six, E. Wright, jr., nine, Joshua Kirkland, eight, Wm. West, six, Asa Colborn, six, Col. D. W. Knight, five, Daniel Kirkland, six, Samuel Williams, eight, Abiather Seekill, six, Daniel Butts, eight, Elihu Butts, ten, Grant Wheat, nine, Samuel Smith, eleven, Asa Smith, six. The young people as they grew up to man and womanhood, made a congenial and pleasant society, the more especially as about every family in the neighborhood was related by blood or connected by marriage with every other family.

Roswell Fellows died in 1813 at the age of sixty-six years. A few years after his death his farm was sold to Milo Lester, excepting half an acre, house and lot, reserved for the widow. There Molly Fellows, the widow, and her daughter Roxy resided, and there the widow died in 1849 at the age of ninety-eight years, six months and twenty-six days, lacking three months of the age of Solomon Williams at his death the next year. Molly Fellows was a woman of more than ordinary strength of mind, body and character. She lived in eventful and perilous times and to an unusual age, yet she retained her faculties to a remarkable degree nearly to the time of her death. The country, which was almost an unbroken wilderness when she settled here, she lived to see become clear of its forests, abounding in rich and cultivated fields, the sites of prosperous and flourishing towns, villages and cities, and the abodes of a thrifty and cultivated people. Where she found the wigwam of the savage and the lair of the wild and ferocious beasts, she was spared to see those wild and rude habitations displaced by pleasant farm houses and palatial residences. In her first residence on the old homestead, the wily and suspicious red men of the forest were her nearest neighbors and most frequent visitors. On numerous occasions when her husband was absent from home, she was obliged to flee with her

youngest children to the chamber and draw up the ladder after her, and thus be beyond the reach of the troublesome Indian. But her kindness to, and her uniform good treatment of these red men, eventually secured their good will; and for many years after she lived on good terms with them. Her remains are beside those of her husband on the old farm. In 1823 Mr. Lester sold the Roswell Fellows place to William and Warren Rich. The latter in 1826 sold to William Purdy, and the latter in 1836 to John Shafer. The latter in 1853 sold some eighteen acres to his son John, and in 1856 fifty acres including the old homestead to his son, Jabez. The latter sold to P. P. Smith, and it subsequently went into the hands of Dr. C. E. Fraser, William G. Denison and John Dorr.

Nearly opposite the residence of Roswell Fellows is a road running east to the covered bridge over the Mohawk River. Four acres on the northeast corner of those two roads were included in Mr. Fellows's 100 acres, and it has quite a history. As early as 1800 Nathan Peggs settled upon that corner and kept a tavern there. Mr. Peggs came from Vermont, and settled there about the same time Deacon Nathaniel Tracy located on his place further south. Nathan Peggs was the father of Mrs. T. G. Halley, and of the late Deacon Peggs, of Rome. He soon after moved on the place next north (afterwards Cyrus Fellows's farm) and the orchard to the east of the highway and near the present dwelling there, was planted by Mr. Peggs. He died many years ago, near the "California House" on a farm where he then resided. A man named Timothy W. Wood succeeded Mr. Peggs in the tavern on that corner, and afterwards came Josiah Talmadge, father-in-law of Simeon Williams (son of Solomon Williams). After Mr. Talmadge, Benjamin Smith, a tailor, lived on that corner. He was father of Nathan, Edward and Benjamin Smith and father-in-law of Dr. John P. Hartwell, the latter father of H. H. Hartwell, of Rome. Dr. Hartwell succeeded Mr. Smith on that place, and resided there at his death. The corner,

once so busy in the early days of Rome, has now all the quietness of any other farm. The houses once there have long since disappeared, and nothing but the memories of the oldest residents furnish evidence of its early activity.

The next fifty acres north of the Roswell Fellows farm belonged to his son, Cyrus Fellows, who died there in 1806. A daughter of Cyrus Fellows (Fanny) became the wife of Benjamin W. Williams; Caroline, another daughter, was the wife of Israel Starks, jr.; Polly, another daughter, the wife of Samuel H. Davis; George P., another child of Cyrus Fellows, went south at an early age, became a permanent resident there, and died in Athens, Georgia. In 1823 the heirs of Cyrus Fellows sold the farm to Warren Rich. Rich sold to Ebenezer Gould in 1826; the latter to David Shafer in 1836. It subsequently passed into the hands of Nathaniel Brainerd, John Treadway, Jonathan B. Clark, W. W. West, John Shafer, jr., Henry Blazier, William Adams and Daniel Smith, jr.

Gates Peck was the owner of the fifty acres next north of the Cyrus Fellows farm, and Mr. Peck's land extended to the Rome town line. He came to Rome in 1803 and was a man of positive character and vigorous understanding. He was in the war of 1812 and went to Sackett's Harbor in the defense of the northern frontier from British invasion. He died on the old homestead where his son-in-law, Capt. Daniel Smith, jr., afterward resided. On the southeast side of Gates Peck's old farm there stood a log house seventy or eighty years ago, where resided a man named Holcomb. At that house the eccentric Lorenzo Dow was a visitor when he came and preached in this locality, as he frequently did, and there Mr. Dow married his wife. On the south side of the highway leading from Roswell Fellows's old residence to the covered bridge, and perhaps one hundred rods from that residence are the remains of an old orchard and other signs of a former habitation. There Hope Smith resided from about 1813, to his death in the spring

of 1823. He was born in Rhode Island, married early, and was a thrifty farmer in that State at the time of the Revolution ; he was in the service of his country during the stormy period, and lost most of his property. About the close of that war, in addition to his pecuniary embarrassment, a domestic misfortune befel him ; his wife, after bearing him two sons and a daughter, became a confirmed maniac, and so remained until her death. He married a second wife about 1787, and the next year removed to Albany, in this State, and in the fall of 1794, to Floyd, in this county, and thence to Rome as above narrated. Mr. Smith possessed strong native talents, was temperate and industrious, but the loss of his property and his domestic afflictions seem to have discouraged him, and to have made his future life one of ill luck. A painful and protracted disease broke down the vigor of his intellect, and almost destroyed his memory. He was the father, and his second wife was the mother, of Rev. Stephen R. Smith, the noted Universalist minister and the founder of Clinton Liberal Institute. It was while Hope Smith resided on that little farm on the cross road, struggling with poverty, that his dutiful son, Stephen R., was pursuing his studies, teaching school and at the same time contributing largely to his father's support.

CHAPTER II.

CANTERBURY HILL.

This is some three miles north of the business portion of Rome, and is from 100 to 150 feet above the valley of the Mohawk, a mile distant to the west. From the summit of that eminence a delightful view is obtained of the surrounding country. To the southeast can be seen a basin in which nestles the city of Utica; more to the southward looms up to the eye the hill on which Hamilton College stands; in the distance are dimly seen the shores of the Oneida Lake; while still further away are seen the Stockbridge hills and rolling meadows and cultivated fields of the county of Madison. This locality was settled very early.

The best accounts are that Zaccheus Abell was the first settler on Canterbury Hill. He came from Lisbon, New London county, Conn. He married Eunice Colburn, daughter of Cornelius Colburn, and sister of the wife of D. W. Knight, sr., all of Lisbon. The precise year Mr Abell came to this locality cannot now be learned. The account books of George Huntington & Co. show that Mr. Abell began trading at the store of that firm in November, 1794, thus showing that he was a resident here two years before Rome was formed into a town. As Mr. Knight came in 1790 no doubt Mr. Abell came soon after. He settled on the top of Canterbury Hill, in a log house east of the highway, and on the next farm north of Mr. Knight's. Prior to 1810 he erected a frame house, and there he died about 1813, leaving a widow and one child. Rev. Horace Bushnell, now of Cincinnati, but who resided on Canterbury Hill over fifty years ago, writes as follows of Mr. Abell: "He was industrious and a kind-hearted man, and

respected for his social virtues" The only child of Mr. Abell (Clarissa) became the wife of Isaac Saxton, and the family resided on the old homestead until after the death of Clarissa, which occurred about 1834. At her death she left four minor children and her mother surviving her, and in 1835 Philander Selden became the purchaser of the premises. Mrs. Abell died many years ago at the residence of Mr. Knight.

The next settler on Canterbury Hill after Mr. Abell, and the first one from Canterbury, Conn., was Gideon Butts. He and his family came in the spring of 1803. Gideon and John Butts were brothers. Both of them had married sisters of D. W. Knight, sr. John Butts came the same year, but later, and he settled upon the 100 acres next south of his brother-in-law, Mr. Knight, at the foot of Canterbury Hill. The family Bible of the Butts family has this record in it: "Mr. Gideon Butts and wife; Elihu Butts and wife (son of Gideon); moved from Canterbury, Conn., to Rome, New York State, April 13, 1803; arrived at Rome the 24th of April on Sunday. Moved to the new house on Wednesday, 20th of November, 1816." These dates are doubtless correct, and they show not only the time that the family came, but also that they were eleven days in making the journey.

At that time Gideon Butts was forty-five years of age, and the father of three children, viz.: Ruby, Daniel and Elihu. The first named was the eldest and then the wife of Silas Wightman, also of Canterbury, but who subsequently settled on Penny street. Daniel was the next oldest. He came in the fall of 1802, when twenty years old, and erected a log house for the family, on the four corners on Canterbury Hill, where Mr. Eychaner resided some years ago, and where Mr. Story subsequently lived. He then returned to Connecticut, took to him a wife, and came back to Rome with his father and brother Elihu in 1803, the latter then being nineteen years old and married, he and his brother Daniel having married sisters. The

county records show that in December, 1804, Gideon Butts purchased of Benjamin Huntling 313 acres in lot 48, Fonda's Patent, that purchase extending northerly towards the big gulf, and easterly so as to include the residence of Alex. Bowman. The east and west road was nearly the boundary line. The price was \$1,882.

About 1810 Gideon Butts erected a frame house on the north and south road, and north of his log house. In 1808 he conveyed to his son Elihu fifty acres off from the northwest corner. Elihu erected a frame house on his land, north of his father, in 1816, and it was into that "new house" he and his family moved on "Wednesday, 20th of November, 1816," as mentioned in the family Bible. Daniel Butts erected a house about the same time on his land, and there he lived until he sold out to a Mr. Burgess, and the latter to Alex. Bowman. Deacon Daniel Butts died on Huntington street, in Rome village, in 1859, at the age of seventy-seven, universally respected, and leaving a large family of children. He was a surveyor of considerable note, as will be remembered by older residents. Gideon Butts died on his old homestead in 1830, at the age of seventy-two. Elihu Butts died on his homestead May 31, 1829, at the age of forty-five, and his widow died in 1868 at the age of eighty-three. Ruby (Butts) Wightman died in 1846 at the age of sixty-five.

About 1802 Grant Wheat, brought up in Lisbon, Conn., came from Norwich, in that State, to what is now Wright Settlement. That year he worked on the farm and in the woods of D. W. Knight, sr., for a year, and then made a brief visit to his native State. When he returned to this locality in 1803 he, in December of that year, married a daughter of John Butts, and went to living in the log house along with Zaccheus Abell. Grant Wheat took a contract of Mr. Huntling of fifty acres of land on the south side of the east and west road on Canterbury Hill, and next east of Mr. Abell's forty-eight acres, and about 1804 erected a log house. In 1806 he had a deed of his land



JAS. S. ABEEL.

for \$300, and in 1820 a frame house was erected, and where he lived until his death in 1861 at the age of eighty-one years. His was the third family that settled on that hill.

The next settler on Canterbury Hill was Abiather Seekill. He came from Canterbury, Conn., as early as 1803, and settled upon a small parcel of land nearly opposite the house of Alex. Bowman, and the next east of Grant Wheat, on the same side of that highway. That he arrived here as early as that year is evidenced by his signature to two subscription lists gotten up in 1802, to pay a minister in that year, of the First Religious Society of Rome. That was three years before any regular minister was installed. The first list bears date in January and the other in August of that year. On the first Mr. Seekill subscribed fifty cents and on the other "one bushel of corn." For the erection of the church edifice in 1807 he subscribed \$5. Mr. Seekill, about 1813, with his two daughters, and four sons, removed to what was then known as the "Genesee country."

As early as 1806 there was living next east of Mr. Seekill's place, and on the same side of the road, Samuel Smith. That he was here is attested by his subscription of \$5 to erect the church edifice, the list bearing date December, 1806. He had a family of eleven children and was from Canturbury. One of the daughters married Joshua Wells, of Western. The rest of the family, in 1827, moved to Waterloo, or in that vicinity, and the other children married there.

Asa Smith, brother of the above (and the two married sisters), was also from Canterbury, but he did not come until about 1811; he settled next east of his brother, on the north side of the highway. He died in the spring of 1815 leaving a widow and three children. His widow became the second wife of Jason Bushnell, and step-mother of Rev. Horace Bushnell. One of the daughters of Asa married Daniel Bushnell, and who resides in Oberlin, Ohio. One of the sons (Asa, jr.) learned his trade of Rufus Barnes, and married a sister of Ralph W.

Kirkland. Samuel is down for "\$5.00 in masonry" on the above subscription list for the erection of the church edifice, thus showing that he was here as early as 1806. He was from Canturbury, and resided, in 1811, on the east corner of Zaccheus Abell's land, but in 1815 he resided on the south side of the above road, next east of Asa Smith. His wife was half-sister of Asa and Samuel Smith. They had a family of eight children; most of them moved to the western part of this State. Mr. Williams died in 1815. One of his daughters married Harry, a brother of Bill Watson.

As early as 1806 Hazel Lathrop came from Norwich, Conn., and settled east of Samuel Wilson, and on the last farm in Rome on that highway before reaching the town of Floyd. The above-mentioned subscription list for the erection of the church edifice has Mr. Lathrop's name down for \$5. Mr. Lathrop married Abby Kirkland, a niece of Joshua Kirkland. He went to Sackett's Harbor in the war of 1812, and was a captain of one of the companies. After the war, and about 1815, Mr. Lathrop moved from the above farm on to one further north, in Western, and there lived for a couple of years. In the fall of 1817 he left his family and his debts in the night time, went to Ohio, and then to Virginia, where he died. His wife, an estimable woman, took her children and went back to her father's home in Springfield, Mass., where she died. The children are worthy and respectable people.

Jason Bushnell, father of Rev. Horace Bushnell and grandfather of Rev. Albert Bushnell, two somewhat noted ministers, came to Canterbury Hill in 1811 from Connecticut. He had served in the Revolutionary army and married a sister of Joshua Kirkland. When he arrived in Rome, Mr. Bushnell occupied a log house standing on land of Gideon Butts on the four corners at the hill. Mr. Bushnell was then forty-seven years old and had ten children. In 1845 he removed to Cincinnati and died there in 1849.

To the foregoing account of the early settlers of that locality may be

added the following record of the location of the various farms and homes as they were in 1811, when Mr. Bushnell came, even at the cost of some repetition.

At that time the residence of the late Andrew Vandenburg on the road running through Wright Settlement to Western, by way of the big gulf, was the residence of Joseph Wright. The next place north was the residence of Thomas Wright, father of Joseph, who came with his brother Ebenezer and his nephew Ebenezer, jr., from Weathersfield, Conn., in 1789 and settled there, as elsewhere recorded; William West resided in that neighborhood in 1811 as he had for ten or twelve years previous. On the three corners next north was the residence of Dr. Clarke, and the next residence north was that of Joshua Kirkland, who died in 1833 at the age of seventy-seven. It was in that house that the first steps were taken to organize the First Religious Society of Rome. E. W. Wright lived in 1811 where his son, E. Wright, jr., resided in recent years. The next residence north on the west side of the road was that of John Butts, who came from Canterbury, Conn., about 1803 and died on the homestead in 1820. On the next place north, at the foot of Canterbury Hill, lived Col. D. W. Knight, who came from Lisbon, Conn., about 1790 and died in 1830. His son, D. W. Knight, afterwards occupied the place.

North of the school house in 1811 Zacheus Abell lived; he was from Lisbon and died about 1813. On the north end of his farm, and on the four corners, was a log house where Samuel Williams resided in 1811; he subsequently moved into a house further toward the Floyd town line; he, too, was from Connecticut. About 1810 Asa Colburn built a house and settled on the west side of the north and south road, on the four corners; he died there at the age of eighty years; he, too, was from Lisbon, Conn., and brought with him his aged parents. North of the four corners was the residence of Gideon Butts, with whom then resided his son, Elihu and wife. Gideon was a brother of John Butts, and came

from Canterbury about 1802. Gideon Butts died in 1830, at the age of seventy-two. Elihu died in 1829, aged forty-five years. Daniel Kirkland, son of Joshua, lived on the farm next north, known as the "Gulf farm"; he came from Connecticut about 1807; he lived in different places, was steward for a while of the Oneida Institute at Whitesboro, moved west and died in Wisconsin. Returning to the four corners on the hill and going east, the first residence on the south side of the road was that of Grant Wheat, a native of Norwich, Conn., and came to Rome about 1802. He died in 1861 at the age of eighty-two; his wife died a few months previous at the age of seventy-four. Next east of Mr. Wheat and on the same side of the road was the residence of Abiather Seekill; he moved there from Connecticut very early in the present century, and left Rome for the Genesee country about 1813; in his place came Mr. Preston, a brother-in-law of Mr. Colburn. Daniel Butts, son of Gideon, lived next east, on the place known as the "Burgess" or Alex. Bowman place. Mr. Butts died in Rome forty or more years ago; he, too, was from Connecticut, coming to Rome a short time previous to his father. On the south side of the road and a little further east, Samuel Smith resided; his brother, Asa, lived further east on the north side of the road, where he died in 1816. Both of the Smiths were from Canterbury. Next east (and at the Floyd town line) Hazel Lathrop resided. He came there from Connecticut about 1807. He was captain of a company (Bill Watson, lieutenant) in the war of 1812, and went with others to Sackett's Harbor to defend the northern frontier from invasion. About 1817 he went to Ohio, thence to Virginia, where he died. The Bushnells resided on the east and west road near the "big rock," a little way from the Floyd line.

In the fall of 1810 Asa and Walter Coburn (brothers) came from Lisbon, Conn., and located on the four corners on Canterbury Hill. The next year Asa erected a house nearly opposite Mr. Abell's residence and in the fall went back for his aged parents (Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius

Colburn) and brought them on, the father being then eighty-one years old. Asa was twice married, both times in Connecticut. By his first wife four children were born; one married Silas W. Butts (son of Elihu Butts), and one became the wife of George Holzman, a former Roman. The second wife of Asa Colburn was Susan E. Parish, an aunt of Rev. A. L. Bushnell, the well known missionary. By this second marriage two children were born, one of them, L. Manning Colburn, of Wright Settlement. Asa Colburn, a worthy and esteemed citizen, was captain in the 157th Regiment of Infantry in 1818, and his commission was signed by De Witt Clinton, then governor of this State. He died in 1868 at the age of eighty-five years, within a few rods of where he first settled, and where he had lived nearly sixty years. His father died in 1824 at the age of ninety three years, and his mother four years later, at the age of eighty four. Walter Colburn moved to Rome village and old residents remember of his living not far from 1820, and having a meat shop.

Joseph Preston married Nabby Colburn, only daughter of Cornelius, and came from Lisbon soon after 1811. He located on the place vacated by Mr. Seekill, and had a numerous family. They moved from Rome many years ago, and she died in 1842, in Wayne county, in this State, and the husband subsequently moved to Wisconsin and died there.

Prior to 1800 John Ely came from New Jersey to this locality, and was for some time the right hand man of John Barnard. The firm of Thomas Selden, Roswell Edgerton and John Ely was formed, and they were extensive jobbers and large contractors, and engaged in erecting buildings and other enterprises. Before 1800 Mr. Ely leased of George Clinton 288 acres by the "big gulf," next north of the Butts farm. Mr. Ely, prior to 1807, resided on the "hill," west of the highway. About that year Daniel Kirkland, from Lisbon, Conn., located on the place which Mr. Ely then vacated, who went on the town line road north of

the big gulf, and subsequently moved near the Martindale place, where he died. He left a large family of children, among whom were Henry F. Ely, David and James Ely, who moved to Illinois, and the late John Ely of Rome.

About 1815 Thomas Jewett came from Canterbury, Conn., and settle upon the place east of where Daniel Kirkland first located, and there he resided until his death. His second son, Elijah Jewett, succeeded to the ownership and lived there until about 1839, when he sold out to John Lawrence, and went to reside on the road east of Grant Wheat's residence. He subsequently moved west and died there. Elijah Jewett married first Ruth, the only daughter of Philander Waters, who many years ago resided on Penny street.

James Collins was also from Canterbury, Conn., and he came about 1816. He married Eliza, a daughter of Thomas Jewett, and located east of Grant Wheat, and died there. His widow returned to Canterbury. Clarissa, a daughter of Thomas Jewett, became the wife of Levi Otis, a son of Joseph Otis, one of the pioneer settlers of Rome. She died in Clayton, Jefferson county.

About 1820 and later, there lived near the "big rock," Daniel Kirkland and his father Joshua, and William Kittrick and others. About 1815 Lemuel Williams and his brother Loren came to Rome from Canterbury. They were brothers of Samuel Williams, heretofore mentioned, and both died here.

Latimer Bailey, who married a daughter of Joseph Otis, lived over sixty or seventy years ago on Canterbury Hill, west of the present school house. He died in Lee about 1877 at the age of ninety-two. In mentioning the Canterbury school house, it brings to mind, that it, too, has a local history. Over eighty years ago, a log school house, the first one on the hill, stood on the north side of the east and west road, east of the Story corner. Benjamin Wheat said that the first school he ever attended was at that log school house. Not far from

1810 a frame one was erected on the brow of the hill south of Mr. Abell's house, on the same side of the highway. There Rev. Horace Bushnell attended school in 1816, and taught there eight years later. Wm. N. Adams taught in that school house prior to 1815, and in that school house the great revival meetings were held in 1814, and again in 1826, the latter year under Rev. Mr. Finney, and where evening prayer meetings were held and so largely attended. About 1840 that school house was sold and converted into a woodshed, and a new school house erected on the opposite side of the highway, but nearer the corners.

CHAPTER III.

THE RIDGE AND OTHER LOCALITIES.

In June, 1790, one of the owners of Fonda's Patent leased to Elisha Walsworth 159 acres, which included what is now known as the Ridge. Mr. Walsworth's lease required him within ten years to plant on his land an apple tree for every two acres. It is not improbable that in the orchard which stood fifteen years ago near the water works reservoir were some of the trees planted by Mr. Walsworth a hundred years ago. Mr. Walsworth sub-leased parts of his lands to various persons and by about the year 1806 quite a collection of houses had been built and some business was carried on. Not far from that year a grist mill and saw mill were built on the west side of the river at the Ridge a little way below the bridge. This grist mill was doubtless the next one built after that of Mr. Fellows. About the year 1812, the little settlement at the Ridge began to grow rapidly. In that year Samuel Wardwell, of Rhode Island, father of the late Judge Wardwell, settled there, bought out the various leases, demolished the old grist mill, built a new one and carried on quite an extensive business. In 1815 he sold his mill privileges and about forty of his three hundred acres of land to David Driggs for \$13,000, and the next year the latter sold to John Driggs. About that time a carding factory, a fulling mill and a woollen or satinet factory was operated, furnishing employment to many persons and giving a busy and thriving air to the place. During that active period the inhabitants of the locality believed that their settlement was to become the business center of Oneida county.

Elmer Hill was named from Hezekiah Elmer, who came from Ver-



GORDON N. BISSELL.

mont about 1792, with five sons and two daughters, and settled there. At about the same time Col. A. Wheelock also settled there and opened the first tavern north of Fort Stanwix on the Hill. Not far from 1797 Dr. Zenas Hutchinson, from Connecticut, settled at the Hill on a seventy acre farm. He was a good physician and had a large practice for forty years; he died in 1853. Dr. Enoch Alden came to Rome about 1798 and had his office where the store of A. M. Jackson & Co. is situated; later he removed to Elmer Hill.

In the year 1817 Dr. H. H. Pope left his paternal home in Vermont when sixteen years old and started westward on foot, to seek his fortune. He had an uncle at Elmer Hill, Dr. Henry Smith, and thither the young man went; he read medicine with his uncle for a time. While Elmer Hill thus had several early physicians, Rome itself had only two prior to 1800—Dr. Mathew Brown, jr., and Dr. Allen. Dr. Arba Blair was probably the next physician as he was a student in 1803.

About the year 1796 a number of families came into this region from the town of Stamford, Vt. Among them was Silas Matteson and family, who located on what became the county poor farm; he was father of the late Simon Matteson, and grandfather of O. B. Matteson. Esquire Smith settled where George Hamill lived in recent years, coming here from the same locality.

In the Greenway and Hatch's Corners districts in the southwestern part of the town, early settlers were Richard Brown, who purchased a farm in 1800, moved upon it in 1801, and in 1816 deeded it to his son, Chauncey Brown; J. B. Green, Jonathan Williams, and Daniel W. Hazard. On the road from Verona Mills to Rome were Daniel Williams, Amos Scofil, John C. Brewster, Lyman Thayer, and others, all of whom have left descendants to perpetuate their names and works. On the old road from Oneida Castle to Rome, early settlers were Richard Brown, jr., Joseph King, Eleazer Dunham; the farm of the latter sub-

sequently passed to Mathew Brown and later to Capt. Daniel Greene, father of Isaac G. Greene; still later to others. Joseph King's farm was sold to Joshua Greene, half brother of Capt. Daniel Greene; later it was purchased by Hoxie Hazard, father of Daniel W. Hazard. Ephraim Covell was another early settler in that region and carried on a small tanning business on his farm, which he sold to Isaac G. Greene.

CHAPTER IV.

THE VILLAGE IN EARLY YEARS.

In tracing the history of the early settlements on the site of Rome village we may properly begin with the year 1789, when Ebenezer Wright came here and found the following dwellings standing :

Two log houses on the road to Newville, near what is known as the McCutcheon place, in one of which Col. William Colbraith (afterwards first sheriff of Oneida county) then resided ; a log house near the site of the United States Arsenal, in which Jedediah Phelps then lived ; a log house near the late residence of Numa Leonard (now owned by Charles E. Saulpaugh), and another one near the present residence of H. K. White. There was also a frame house—and the *only* one—near the site of G. N. Bissell's present residence, and another log house near the present site of St. Peter's Catholic church, into which three families of newcomers removed a week after Mr. Wright's arrival. In the house near the fort were then living the Ranney family, Bill Smith, and a Dutchman named Dumont. A man named Armstrong lived at the junction of Wood and Canada Creeks.

A description of what has always been called the Expense Lot which embraces a part of the site of Rome, is essential at this point.

On the 4th of June, 1785, a survey of the Oriskany Patent into allotments began, as described in the history of land titles in the other volume of this work. Previous to surveying the allotments a certain parcel was surveyed off to be sold at auction to pay the expense of the survey. This lot has ever since been known as the "Expense Lot." As originally set off it contained 697 acres ; its boundaries are about as follows, viz.:

Commencing on the south side of the Mohawk, and not far from Mr. Parry's brickyard; thence running southwesterly towards the Poor House, about 240 rods; then northwesterly about a mile, towards Canal Village; then northeast about 150 rods, towards St. Joseph's church, passing south of that building, and crossing the track of the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad at Henry street, and up that street to near the track of the Rome, Watertown and Ogdensburg Railroad, where Expense street extended would cross it; thence north up that street to a point about half way between Court and Embargo streets; thence easterly, crossing the blocks diagonally, and passing near the house of Mr. Charles Keith, on the corner of Court and Washington streets, and so on diagonally across West Park to James street; and thence nearly down Park alley, and crossing the Black River Canal near the bathing house of H. W. Barnes, and so on to the Mohawk; then following that stream down to the starting point.

On the 12th of November, 1785, the agents who surveyed the "Expense Lot" and divided the patent into allotments, published a notice that on the 9th of January, 1786, they would meet at Butlersburg, at the inn of Myndert W. Quackenbush, "for the purpose of attending to the balloting for, and drawing by lot," the several parcels surveyed. At that meeting there were present the commissioners, the agents, Judge Visscher, and Jelles Fonda. None of the owners of the patent appeared, and the drawings took place then and there. The James De Lancy one-fifth was set off to the State, one of the parcels thus disposed of being a tract of 960 acres in the northwest corner of the patent, including among other lands the Rome cemetery, and most of the farm formerly owned by Asa C. Huntington, and later by Dr. H. H. Pope; also another parcel (460 acres) east of Factory Village. No others in this immediate vicinity were set off to the State. The portion of the city east of Washington street and next north of the "Expense Lot" was set off to William Livingston and Alida Hoffman, and contained 460 acres, including the old burying-ground, the blocks where stand the Presbyterian church, the court house, St. Peter's church, the East Park, and on across the river so as to take in Factory Village. The portion west of Washington street and north and west of the "Expense Lot," including West Rome, was set off to those

claiming under George Clarke; the portion of the "Rome Swamp," south of the "Expense Lot," and between that line and the County House, was set off to those claiming under Thomas Wenham.

March 17, 1786, the "Expense Lot" was put up at auction, and bid off by Dominick Lynch, then a merchant of New York city, for £2,250. This was his first purchase in this vicinity, and the germ of the Lynch estate in Rome.

From the price paid for the "Expense Lot" it seems that Mr. Lynch considered it valuable, although the southern portion of it was so swampy as to be entirely ineligible for building lots. In fact it is not known whether he ever entertained an idea of converting that part of it into building lots. In July, 1786, he purchased of William Livingston and Alida Hoffman the 460 acres set off to them, thus arranging his property here in better shape, and in 1787 he purchased of the "Commissioners of Forfeitures" the 460 acres east of Factory Village, which had been set off to the State. Before 1800 he purchased other contiguous parcels, thus becoming the owner of about 2,000 acres, nearly or quite in a compact body.

It has been mentioned that when Ebenezer Wright came to Rome, in 1789, there was but one frame house on the site of what is now the city. In 1793 John Barnard kept a tavern on or near the site of the old Baptist church. In the spring of the same year there came to the place a young unmarried man, who became the first merchant in Rome, and a prominent man among the settlers. This was George Huntington, the father of Edward Huntington, esq., now of Rome. He brought a stock of merchandise with him, and set up business in the same house kept by Barnard as a tavern. The next year, 1794, he built a dwelling on the site of the residence in later years of Dr. Cobb.

In 1795 a grist mill was erected on Wood Creek, not far from the site of the United States Arsenal. This mill was an important institu-

tion for that day, and the next day a boat load of corn to be ground into meal came from Ontario county, via Seneca River, Oneida River, Oneida Lake, and Wood Creek, and when the meal was ready the bateau returned with its load by the same route. This was at that time the nearest mill of the kind to the inhabitants of Ontario county.

It is not positively known at what time Dominick Lynch laid out the plat of this village, but it was as early as 1796. He gave it the name of Lynchville. The blocks in the village were 600 by 400 feet, with eighteen lots in each block. The numbering of lots began on the south side of Dominick street, at what is now the Black River Canal, and included from one upwards the space between that point and Wood Creek on the west, where they crossed to the opposite side of the street and numbered back (Fort Stanwix block being No. 12), then crossed over Liberty street and numbered back again to Wood Creek, and so back and forth. On the first map of the place the only streets shown were Dominick and James. About the year 1800 another map was made, showing Dominick, Washington, James, Liberty, Madison, Court, Embargo, Jay, Thomas, and Bloomfield streets. None of these, except the first four, were opened to any extent until 1850.

It is stated that prior to 1800 a number of the then leading citizens of the place were together, and the subject of a name for the embryo village was broached. George Huntington, who had become at the time an extensive lot owner in the vicinity, spoke of the many classical names given to places in the State, but remarked that none had been named after the "Eternal City," and he therefore suggested Rome, which was adopted, partly from the suggestion and partly from the fact that the town (formed in 1796) bore the same name. Of the streets of Rome, Dominick was named for Mr. Lynch, the original proprietor; James was named after his son; and Washington took its name from the great chieftain then living, whose deeds were fresh in the minds of the people.

Mr. Lynch adopted the plan of giving durable and perpetual leases of his lots, rather than absolute titles, and for many years the system was a source of trouble to the citizens. An annual rent was reserved, payable in money or grain, and in case of non-payment the property was to revert to the owner.

The first conveyances (durable leases) given by Mr. Lynch were in 1796; on the 30th of July of that year twenty eight lots were leased to the following persons, viz., Matthew Brown, jr., Michael McGrath, Sheldon Logan (what is now the Empire block), Joshua Hathaway (Elm Row), and John Barnard, the latter leasing twenty-two lots on Dominick street. Three years later, in 1779, the site of Merrill's block and other premises were leased to George Huntington perpetually, at an annual rent of twelve bushels of wheat, payable May 1 of each year. It is possible there were also other leases in Lynchville where the rent was to be paid in grain.

In the southern, or swampy portion of Mr. Lynch's purchase, he laid out sixty lots of four and one-half acres each, which became known as "Pepper-corn lots." Parties leasing lots in Lynchville usually had one of these lots thrown in as a "bonus." They were at that time considered as of little or no value, and the rent reserved on each one was a pepper-corn, payable on the first day of May in each year, if lawfully demanded, for the term of the next ten thousand years, and after twenty cents annually for each lot!

John Barnard, already mentioned, was one of the most enterprising of Rome's early citizens, and a favorite with Mr. Lynch. He built many of the first edifices, and entered into the work of founding and building up a city with a zeal deserving of better results. He finally became involved to such an extent that he was forced to make an assignment, and accordingly, in 1799, he conveyed seventy-two acres of "Pepper-corn lots" to one Caleb Putnam, a tanner. This tract included the land on which now stand the Armstrong and Beecham

blocks, south of the Erie Canal and west of James street, and south from that, taking in the Railroad Hotel and depot buildings. Mr. Putnam's house stood near the canal of the Western Inland Lock Navigation Company, a short distance east of James street. His tannery was in the rear, and nearest the canal. The barn occupied a portion of the space, and the balance of the triangle formed by James street, the railroad, and the canal was occupied by vats and a bark mill, and covered with tan bark. This tannery was the first one put in operation in this part of the country, and did quite an extensive business. In 1819, while Mr. Putnam was inspecting some timber in the woods, he fell upon a log, and a projecting knot penetrated his abdomen, inflicting wounds from the effects of which he died. He was buried by the Masonic fraternity. After his death the tannery was carried on for a time by Horace N. Carr, but finally went to decay.

In all the early leases from Mr. Lynch the land they cover is described as being in "Lynchville," town of Rome, and county of Herkimer, the lots being numbered on a map made by William Weston. In the subsequent conveyances, for a number of years, they are described in the same way, the name of Rome not being used except in speaking of the town. William Weston was the same individual who constructed the canal of the Western Inland Lock Navigation Company, and was an English engineer of considerable repute. He made the map of Lynchville for its proprietor, and subsequently returned to England, from whence he had been called to construct the above-mentioned canal.

This canal, which was two miles in length, was opened for use in 1797, and extended from the Mohawk, near McCutcheon Place, to Wood Creek, at the United States Arsenal, having a capacity for Durham boats of forty tons burden. Bateaux drawing two feet of water, and carrying from three to fifteen tons, could pass, although with considerable difficulty, in dry seasons. It was estimated that in 1812



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the number of boats passing through this canal was 300, with 1,500 tons of merchandise. Gen. Philip Schuyler was president and a director of the company, and Dominick Lynch and Col. Marinus Willett were also directors. Peter Colt, who lived at the time near McCutcheon Place, superintended the construction of the work; he was continuous superintendent, and George Huntington collector, from 1797 until the completion of this section of the Erie Canal in 1820.

Of Fort Stanwix in September, 1791, Elkanah Watson wrote as follows:

The situation of Fort Stanwix appears destined to become a great city; it lies in an open plain, healthy and exactly at the point where the eastern and western waters unite. There is a large clearing about the old fort with two or three scattering houses. No progress has, however, been made since I attended the treaty here in 1788, although the plan of the city is now contemplated.

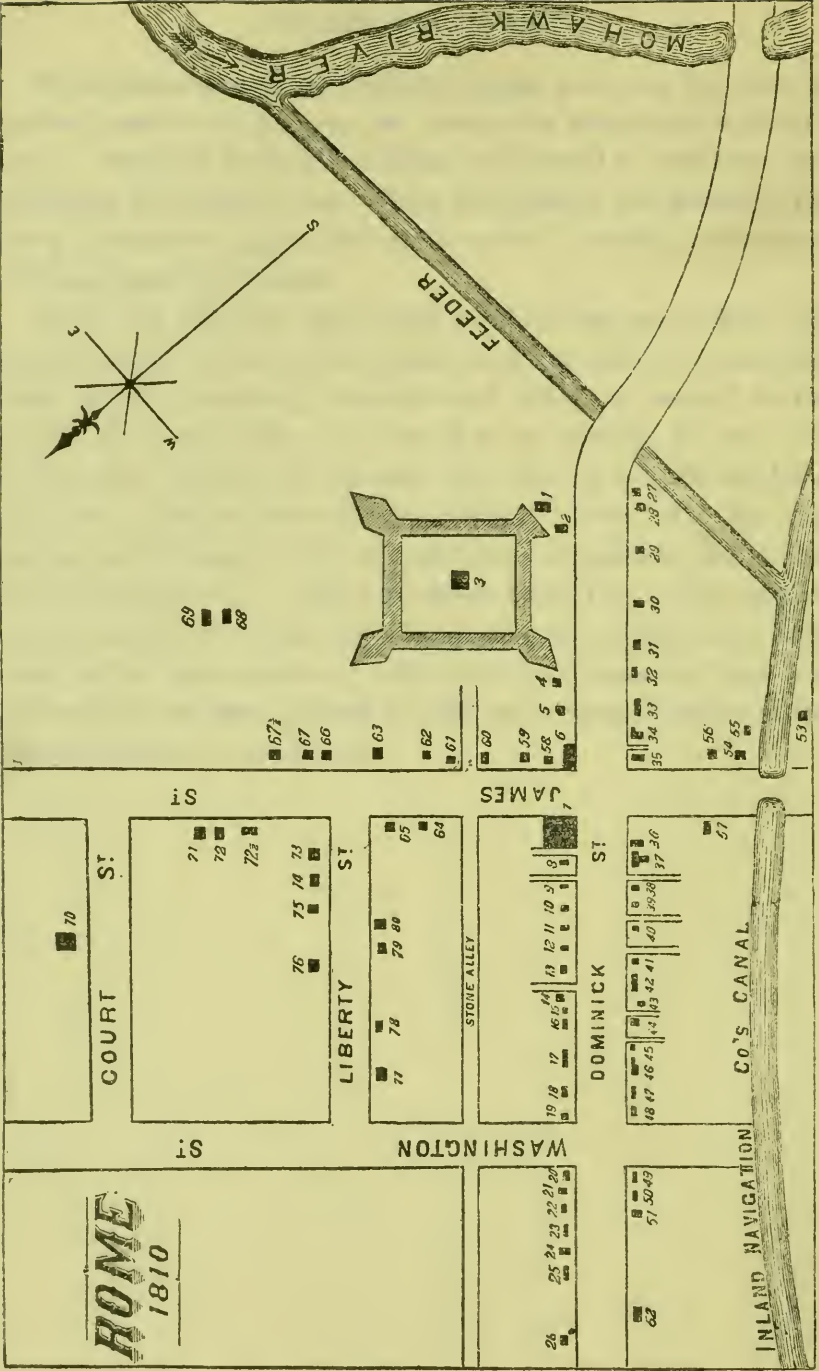
In September, 1799, President Dwight, of Yale College, visited Rome and in his "Book of Travels," thus describes what he saw here:

The village of Rome is a very unpromising copy of the great exemplar from which it has derived its name. The land on which it is built is poor, and surrounded by alders or half starved trees. The houses are about twenty in number, and decent in their appearance; the whole aspect is uninviting. The proprietor of the ground, a gentleman of New York, believing, as proprietors usually do, that his lands will soon be very valuable, has taken effectual care to prevent them becoming so by distributing them into small house-lots, demanding excessive rents, and adopting other unwise measures. The canal, through which, when the outlets are open, runs a sprightly stream, adds not a little cheerfulness to the village. Nor is this the only benefit derived from it by the inhabitants. The base of their settlement is composed almost wholly of small round stones. The canal being dug to a depth considerably lower than their cellars, heretofore wet and troublesome, has effectually drained them. The water also, in the upper part of the wells, which was of a bad quality, has by the same means been drawn off; and the remainder, flowing from a deeper source, has become materially sweeter and better. We examined the locks of the canal, and were not a little surprised to see the bricks composing the locks already beginning to moulder away, although the work had been finished little more than two years. I have seen no good bricks in this region. In fire-places they soon burn out; wherever they are exposed to the weather they speedily dissolve.

The bricks mentioned by President Dwight were very large, but they did not answer the purpose and were soon afterwards replaced by stone. When the Rome Court House was erected in 1806 these bricks were used in its construction. When this building was burned in 1844, many of them were again used in the walls of a dwelling on the corner of George and Court streets.

In the year 1804 Mr. Lynch built a dam across the Mohawk some distance above the dam of the Inland Canal and from it he conducted a large raceway, extending across the land within the bend of the river, so that the water taken out at the dam ran through the race to the stream at the other side of the bow, where the old red mill was built in that year. This was below Factory Village. About 1810 Mr. Lynch built a woolen factory on the site afterwards occupied by the soap factory of Brodock & Co. This was burned about 1817. Other improvements made by Mr. Lynch were the building of a cotton factory farther down on his raceway prior to 1820, which was burned in 1849; a saw mill built on the same ground in 1863 and a wrench factory in 1865, both of which were also burned.





CHAPTER V.

TOWN MEETING PROCEEDINGS.

The territory of the town of Rome (now the city) was originally a part of the great town of Whitestown, from which the town of Steuben was created April 10, 1792, including what is now Rome. The first town meeting for Steuben was held at the house of Seth Ranney "near Ft. Stanwix" on the first Tuesday in April, 1793, and Roswell Fellows was chosen supervisor, and Jedediah Phelps town clerk. From Steuben the town of Rome was erected March 4, 1796. The first town meeting was held at the dwelling house of Ebenezer Claflin on the first Tuesday in April, 1796. There the following officers were elected: Supervisor, George Huntington; town clerk, Ebenezer Wright, jr.; assessors, Chester Gould, Gershom Waldo, and Daniel W. Knight; overseers of the poor, Thomas Wright and William Walsworth; commissioners of highways, William Smith, Elijah Walls, and Caleb Reynolds; constables, Samuel Reynolds and David Waldo; fence viewers, Matthew Brown, Asa Tyler and John Williams; pound masters, Nathan Thompson and Matthew Brown; school commissioners, Chester Gould, Sheldon Logan and Abijah Putnam. When the town of Rome was formed its territory constituted a part of Herkimer county, and continued thus until March 15, 1798, when Oneida county was erected. The population of the town when it was formed must have been less than 1,000, for the census of 1800 gives it as only 1,400. At that time most of the immediate region was a wilderness through which roamed panthers, bears, wolves, wildcats and other beasts of prey. Settlements were few and far between.

At the first town meeting it was voted "that Daniel Haws build a

good pound for the town of Rome near the dwelling of Benjamin Gilbert." It was also voted, "that hogs be free commoners, if they have good and sufficient yokes on;" it was also voted "that every man take care of his own rams."

Following is a concise account of the principal proceedings of the town meetings down to the organization of Rome village :

1797.—The town meeting was held at the house of Benjamin Gilbert. The same overseers of the poor were re-elected. E. Wright, jr., Chester Gould and John White, assessors; Calvin Gould, David I. Andrus, and Timothy Wood, commissioners of highways; S. Reynolds, Simeon Rood, and Bill Smith, constables. There were elected this year fourteen pathmasters.

1798.—Town meeting was held at the house of David I. Andrus. The same overseers of the poor re-elected and the same constables, with Stephen Benedict as third constable; Gershom Waldo, D. I. Andrus and Thomas Wright, jr., assessors; Jeremiah Steves, Isaac Lathrop and E. Wright, jr., commissioners of highways; Joshua Hathaway, E. Wright and Roswell Fellows, school commissioners. It was voted "that fence viewers should have six cents a day for their services;" and "that horses be free commoners, stallions excepted; if any stallion be found on the common one year old or upwards, the owner to pay five pounds to the use of the poor." It was also voted "that hogs to be free commoners with yokes six inches long above the neck, three inches wide each side and three below, that the yokes be put on by the first of May and taken off by the first of November; that rams be confined from September 1 to November 1."

1799.—Town meeting held at the same place as last year; E. Wright, jr., Moses Wright and Peter Colt, assessors. The same overseers of the poor were elected as in the three preceding years, and the same constables as the last year; Elisha Walworth, Cyrus Fellows and Michael Frost, commissioners of highways. This year the road districts were formed and numbered and a pathmaster elected for each.

1800.—Town meeting was held at the school house. Henry Huntington, Moses Wright, and E. Wright, jr., assessors; the same constables as the preceding year, and the same overseers of the poor as in the four preceding years; Gershom Hinckley, Silas Perkins, and Elisha Walsworth, commissioners of highways; Thomas Moore, Henry Huntington, school commissioners; Matthew Brown, D. A. Andrus, poundmasters. No school commissioners were elected again until 1814.

1801.—Having given the chief officers elected in each year for the first year of Rome's existence as a town, they will be omitted hereafter, except as given in later lists. In this year it was voted "that no cattle be allowed to run at large between December 1 and March 20 within half a mile of each mill or tavern in town;" two shillings fine per head imposed on the owner for violation of this by-law. An extra town meeting was held at the school house November 30 of this year and it was there voted "that ten dollars be raised and paid to any person who shall kill any panther, wolf, or wild cat in town." It was also voted "that a bounty of one cent be paid for each chipping or red squirrel, two cents for each gray and black squirrel killed before the first of April."

1802 —Town meeting held at the school house. It was voted "that a bounty be paid of one cent for each blackbird and blue jay and six cents for each crow killed in Rome for the ensuing year." Voted, "that one hundred dollars be raised for support of the poor the ensuing year." Voted, "that no cattle or hogs be allowed to run at large within half a mile of any mill or tavern from December 1 to March 20." Voted, "that no jack shall be allowed to run at large at any time," under penalty of five pounds to be paid by the owner for the use of the poor.

1803.—Town meeting held at the school house. It was voted that fence viewers' fee be three shillings per day; "that there shall be three pounds in town, one near the dwelling house of David I. Andrus, one near the jail, and one near the house of Matthew Brown, and said pounds shall be

built with posts and rails." The bounty of 1801 for killing squirrels and birds was revived. A special town meeting was held September 27, and one hundred dollars voted to be raised for the support of the poor in town.

1804.—Town meeting held at the house of David I. Andrus. Fence viewers voted at four shillings per day. "No bounty to be paid for killing wolves." "The same bounty to be paid as heretofore for killing squirrels and birds." Voted, "that each assessor shall procure one pound each of nux vomica for the purpose of killing wolves." Voted, "that all cattle found at large within half a mile of any tavern or grist mill to be impounded."

1805.—Town meeting held at the house of Moses Wright. Voted, "that no bounty shall be paid for the ensuing year for the destruction of crows, squirrels and birds." Voted, "that five dollars be paid for every wolf killed in town the ensuing year." Voted, "that one hundred dollars be raised for the support of the poor." Voted, "that lawful fence shall be four and a half feet high and well erected." The poundmasters for this year were Joshua Hathaway, M. Brown, jr., and Moses Wright.

1806.—Town meeting held at the school house. The commissioners of highways were James Lynch, Benjamin Wright, and George Huntington. Voted "that colts and sheep be restrained from running at large at any time." The by laws were quite full this year as to what should run at large and what should not

1807.—Town meeting was held in Stephen White's hotel. A pound was directed to be built in the southwest part of the town near the house of Charles Wylie, and another in the southeast part near the house of Clark Putnam, and the pound near Matthew Brown's was discontinued. It was again voted prohibiting "horses, cattle and hogs running at large within half a mile of any tavern or grist mill."

1808.—Town meeting held at Stephen White's hotel. Eleven by-

laws were passed relative to horses, hogs, jacks, sheep, and cattle, running at large. A bounty of fifteen dollars was voted for each wolf killed in Rome.

1809.—Town meeting held at Stephen White's hotel. Voted, "that fence viewers' fees to be two shillings per day." The bounty on wolves and panthers was fixed at fifteen dollars.

1810.—Town meeting was held this year at the court house for the first time. The officers were chosen by ballot, one at a time. It was voted "that there be no fines on creatures impounded." The bounty on wolves was fixed at twenty dollars.

1811.—The town meetings from now on until 1852 were held at the court house, except in 1834, in which year it was held at the Coffee House, on account of court being in session. In 1852 it was held at the Seymour House; in 1853 at Jacob Stevens's; in 1856-60 inclusive at the Seymour House. In 1861 and each year thereafter until Rome was made a city the town meetings were held at the court house. Cattle, hogs, horses, etc., were prohibited this year from running at large within half a mile of any tavern or grist mill.

1812.—A bounty of twenty dollars was voted on wolves. Fence viewers were allowed two shillings per day.

1813.—The Legislature having in June, 1812, appropriated the interest of a certain fund for the maintenance of common schools and given it to towns that should raise a like sum, a special town meeting was held in Rome pursuant to call, June 14, 1813, at which Benjamin Wright, Philip Robinson, and Ebenezer Wright were elected school commissioners, and the following were elected school inspectors: Joshua Hathaway, Isaac G. Green, Moses Gillett, Daniel Butts, Moses Wright, I. N. Hinckley. Another special town meeting was held pursuant to request of freeholders, September 18, 1813, and \$220 were voted to be raised for the support of the poor of the town.

1814.—The school commissioners of the preceding year were re-

elected, and the same inspectors, except Theophilus Waterman in place of I. G. Green. Voted that school commissioners should receive one dollar per day each; and that the town raise \$500 for support of the poor. This year the town was divided into twenty-five road districts, and the boundaries defined.

1815.—Town voted to raise \$500 for support of the poor. The town clerk was directed to procure a standard brass yard to be kept in his office for the use of the town.

1816.—\$500 was voted for the support of the poor. Voted, "that the poor be set up at vendue by the overseers of the poor, and go to the lowest bidder and be by them supported, and the poormaster shall give timely notice of the sale." Voted, "that the town pay a bounty of 75 cents on all foxes killed in the town of Rome."

1817.—No business was transacted in this town meeting except the election of officers.

1818.—George Huntington, James Sherman, and Samuel Beardsley were elected school commissioners. Five hundred dollars was voted for the support of the poor. The bounty on wolves was fixed at twenty dollars each, and on foxes at six shillings each. It was voted that the town raise for schools the same amount as it received from the State. Gates Peck, Daniel Green, James Sherman, Joshua Hathaway, and E. Wright were appointed a committee to draft a code of laws for government of the town.

1819.—The town was divided into twenty-seven road districts and their boundaries defined. \$400 was voted for the support of the poor. A bounty of \$25 was voted for wolves and seventy-five cents on foxes.

1820.—Four hundred and fifty dollars was voted for the support of the poor. Voted that a committee of three be appointed to report the feasibility of purchasing a poorhouse for the town. B. B. Hyde, E. Worthington, B. P. Johnson were appointed such committee. Fence



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viewers' fees were fixed at two shillings per day. A bounty of \$20 was voted for wolves, and seventy-five cents on foxes. S. B. Roberts, James Sherman, and Oliver C. Grosvenor were elected inspectors of schools.

1821.—It was voted "that one piece of paper contain all the names of town officers after this meeting, and a poll list be kept." Collector's fees fixed at three per cent. Twenty dollars bounty on wolves was voted. Overseers of the poor were authorized to provide a house and garden for the support of the poor and that \$250 be raised for the poor.

The following is a list of the supervisors of the town of Rome, from its organization down to 1869, the date of the organization of Rome city: 1797, Abijah Putnam; 1798 to 1801, Thomas Gilbert; 1802, Clark Putnam; 1803, Henry Huntington; 1804, George Huntington; 1805, Clark Putnam; 1806-07, Thomas Gilbert; 1808, Samuel Dill; 1809, Henry Huntington; 1810-11, Samuel Dill; 1812-13, Bill Smith; 1814, George Huntington; 1815-16, Wheeler Barnes; 1817, George Huntington; 1818-20, Samuel Beardsley; 1821-22, Rufus Barnes; 1823-26, Jay Hathaway; 1827-28, George Brown; 1829-30, Henry A. Foster; 1831-32, Numa Leonard; 1833-34, Henry A. Foster; 1835-36, Jesse Armstrong; 1837-38, Harold H. Pope; 1839-40, James Merrill; 1841-42, Adam Van Patten; 1843-44, Enoch B. Armstrong; 1845-46, Giles Hawley; 1847, John Niles; 1848-49, Alfred Ethridge; 1850, Allen Briggs; 1851, Benjamin N. Huntington; 1852-53, Stephen Van Dresar; 1854, Bradford C. Dean; 1855-58, Giles Hawley; 1859-60, Alfred Ethridge; 1861-68, Giles Hawley; 1869, Enoch B. Armstrong. (Continued in official list of city.)

The surface of the town (now city) of Rome is for the most part level, and before it was drained by the construction of the Erie Canal and private sewers was marshy in many places, the swamp southward from Fort Stanwix being impassable during nearly the entire year. Unless

in a very wet season, it can now be cultivated over its whole area, and many fine gardens are found where originally the life of man or beast was endangered by an attempt to cross. In the northern or eastern portions of the town the surface is higher and gently rolling, with quite abrupt bluffs along the Mohawk and smaller streams.

The various streams which water the territory included in Rome are the Mohawk, which enters from the town of Western on the north, flows southward to the city proper, and thence eastwardly (forming the boundary between Floyd and the southeast part of Rome) in a winding course between the towns of Marcy and Deerfield on the north, and Whitestown and the city of Utica on the south, into Herkimer county; Wood Creek, which flows southerly to the city, thence westerly, receiving Canada Creek at the southeast corner of the town of Verona, forming the boundary between Verona and Rome for a number of miles, and on to Oneida Lake; Canada Creek, which flows southward across the town from Lee, and enters Wood Creek as mentioned; Fish Creek, also coming from the north, and forming the boundary for some distance between Rome and Vienna, thence across a corner of Vienna to its junction with Wood Creek near the outlet of the latter into Oneida Lake. There are also numerous smaller streams, tributary to both the Mohawk and Wood Creek.

Rome includes on the west a portion of town number two of Scriba's Patent; in the northeast a part of Fonda's Patent; in the southeast a large portion of the Oriskany Patent; in the southwest a small part of Coxe's Patent, the Smith tract, and a portion of the Perache tract.

CHAPTER VI.

VILLAGE INCORPORATION AND CIVIL LIST.

The village of Rome was incorporated in 1819, with the following boundaries, to wit: "Commencing at the junction of the Erie Canal¹ with Wood Creek, near the white house called the 'Clark House,' and thence down the canal to the west line of George House; thence on a line of said farm to a poplar tree south of the old² canal; thence to the east corner of Fiero's barn; thence to the north corner of Jacob Tibbits' barn; then north to the east corner of Bloomfield's garden; thence northward to Wood Creek; thence down the creek to the place of beginning."

The first election for village officers was held on the first Tuesday in June, 1819, at the court house, James Sherman, esq., justice of the peace, presiding. The following were the officers chosen: Trustees, George Huntington, Charles Wylie, Joshua Hathaway, Pliny Darrow, Bela B. Hyde; assessors, William Wright, Samuel Beardsley, Arden Seymour; clerk, Benjamin P. Johnson; treasurer, Arba Blair; collector, Archibald T. Funk.

In 1824 it was "Voted that a tax of forty dollars be raised for completing the burying-ground, and that it be left discretionary with the trustees to raise the same, should they not succeed in raising sufficient to complete the same by subscription;" also "Voted, That a tax of thirty dollars be raised for repairing the town pump and well near the hotel."

At a meeting of the board July 5, 1852, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

¹ Old Erie Canal.

² Inland Canal.

Whereas, This board has received information that the remains of the lamented Henry Clay are to pass through this place, on the express train, at ten o'clock P. M. to-morrow, and

Whereas, It is eminently proper that some expression should be made of the profound grief which the death of this illustrious patriot has spread over the community, therefore

Resolved, That between the hours of ten and twelve o'clock the bells of the several churches of this village be tolled, the minute guns be fired, and that all occupants of places of business be requested to close the same during the time above mentioned.

In 1853 the village was divided into three wards, the portion east of James street being the First ward; that west of James street and south of Liberty the Second ward; and west of James and north of Liberty the Third ward.

The trustees of the village from 1820 to 1834, inclusive, were the following persons, viz :

1820-21.—George Huntington, Elijah Worthington, Stephen White, Elisha Walsworth, Numa Leonard.

1822.—Same, except Wheeler Barnes was elected in the place of Stephen White.

1823.—Wheeler Barnes, Joshua Hathaway, Simon Matteson, George Brown, Dennis Davenport.

1824-25.—Wheeler Barnes, Arden Seymour, Simon Matteson, George Brown, Numa Leonard.

1826.—George Huntington, John W. Bloomfield, Jay Hathaway, Elisha Walsworth, Henry A. Foster.

1827.—John W. Bloomfield, George Huntington, Henry A. Foster, Martin Galusha, Jay Hathaway.

1828.—J. W. Bloomfield, Jay Hathaway, H. A. Foster, Seth B. Roberts, Arden Seymour.

1829.—J. W. Bloomfield, Jay Hathaway, Seth B. Roberts, Francis Bicknell, Lyman Briggs.

1830.—Alanson Bennett, Bela B. Hyde, Noah Draper, James Merri-
rills, Sylvester Wilcox.

1831.—Bela B. Hyde, Henry Tibbits, James Merrills, Sylvester Wilcox, Joseph B. Read.

1832.—A. Bennett, Alva Whedon, James Merrills, Francis Bicknell, Jay Hathaway.

1833.—No record.

1834.—Jesse Armstrong, John Stryker, Alva Mudge, Samuel B. Stevens, Virgil Draper.

From 1835 to 1849, inclusive, the records of the village have been lost or misplaced, and it is impossible to give the trustees for those years. From 1850 to 1869 they were as follows:

1850.—Edward Huntington, Oliver J. Grosvenor, Andrew J. Rowley, Stephen Van Dresar, Henry C. Mallary.

1851-52.—Enoch B. Armstrong, Roland S. Doty, Woodman Kimball, Sanford Adams, Marquis D. Hollister.

1853.—President, Alanson Bennett. 1st ward, H. S. Armstrong, E. A. Gage, E. M. Hinkley; 2d ward, Stephen Van Dresar, J. Lewis Grant, Publius V. Rogers; 3d ward, M. L. Kenyon, Zaccheus Hill, Henry Hayden.

1854.—President, B. J. Beach. 1st ward, Gordon N. Bissell, James L. Watkins, A. McCune; 2d ward, J. L. Grant, M. Burns, Richard Peggs; 3d ward, James Walker, S. Scofil, C. P. Williams.

1855.—President, Marquis L. Kenyon. 1st ward Harrison Jacobs, E. A. Gage, Moses Wingate; 2d ward, Michael Burns, Henry T. Utley, Eri Seymour; 3d ward, R. G. Savery, J. H. Gilbert, M. L. Brainard.

1856.—President, George Barnard. 1st ward, A. W. Cole, Joseph Higgins, Robert Whitworth; 2d ward, H. H. Pope, J. J. Armstrong, John Ward; 3d ward, A. H. Edgerton, Edward Dickinson, John J. Parry.

1857.—President, George Barnard. 1st ward, Henry O. Southworth, Robert Whitworth, Jacob P. Hager; 2d ward, John Ward, Thomas H. Pond, Daniel Hager; 3d ward, A. H. Edgerton, George W. Taft, Edward Smith.

1858.—President, George Barnard. 1st ward, Henry O. Southworth, Paul Schneible, Robert Whitworth; 2d ward, John Ward, Daniel Hager, Glen Petrie; 3d ward, A. H. Edgerton, G. W. Taft, Edward Smith.

1859.—President, George Barnard. 1st ward, Alva Mudge, H. C. Case, H. C. Mallery; 2d ward, H. H. Pope, John Ward, D. Hager; 3d A. H. Edgerton, E. P. Wait, R. E. Lee.

1860.—President, George Barnard. 1st ward, Charles F. Bissell, Henry C. Mallery, Nathaniel Hazelton; 2d ward, H. H. Pope, Adam Kochersperger, John O'Neil; 3d ward, Robinson E. Smiley, N. Hyde Leffingwell, Zaccheus Hill.

1861.—President, George Barnard. 1st ward, H. C. Mallery, Jacob Rastizer, George Merrill; 2d ward, A. K. Adams, H. H. Pope, Peter Quinn; 3d ward, William J. Walker, Daniel Cady, Nicholas Moran.

1862.—President, George Barnard. 1st ward, H. C. Mallery, M. W. Rowe, Peter Rathmund; 2d ward, H. H. Pope, A. K. Adams, Peter Quinn; 3d ward, Z. Hill, E. A. Allen, Jephtha Matteson.

1863.—President, George Barnard. 1st ward, D. B. Prince, H. Edmonds, R. Whitworth; 2d ward, H. H. Pope, A. K. Adams, Thomas Flanagan; 3d ward, J. Matteson, Z. Hill, E. A. Allen.

1864.—President, David Utley. 1st ward, M. Maloney, Martin Seeger, Daniel L. Ketcham; 2d ward, John Harrington, John Spellicy, Peter Quinn; 3d ward, James Walker, John D. Ely, Harvey D. Spencer.

1865.—President, E. B. Armstrong. 1st ward, Joseph Higgins, Orson Knowlton, James Elwell; 2d ward, John Reifert, John Hook, Thomas Flanagan; 3d ward, Samuel Wardwell, James Walker, G. H. Lynch.

1866.—President, George Barnard, jr. 1st ward, H. O. Southworth, Orson Knowlton, Joseph Higgins; 2d ward, John Reifert, John Hook, Thomas Flanagan; 3d ward, James Walker, Lewis Gaylord, Sylvester F. Tremain.

1867.—President, James Stevens. 1st ward, Lawrence Gaheen, James Elwell, Peter Rothmund; 2d ward, Nicholas Kapfer, Thomas Flanagan, John Spellicy; 3d ward, Griffith W. Jones, Lewis Gaylord, William Jackson.

1868.—President, James Stevens. 1st ward, Peter Rothmund, James H. Carroll, George H. Brodock; 2d ward, Henry W. Tibbits, Fred Rostizer, Thomas W. Edwards; 3d ward, William Jackson, Lewis Gaylord, B. W. Williams.

1869.—President, Edward L. Stevens. 1st ward, James H. Carroll; 2d ward, John Spellicy; 3d ward, Ackley P. Fuller. A portion of the old board held over this year, according to the new regulations for the election of trustees, etc.

CHAPTER VII.

EARLY BUSINESS AND BUILDINGS IN ROME.

Let us refresh the memory of the older residents and impart information to newcomers by calling attention to the fact that some forty-five years ago a person standing at the Erie Canal bridge and going up James to Dominick, down Dominick to Spring, up Spring to Liberty, and thence to George street, would describe very nearly the boundaries of Rome at that time (about 1850). It is true that James street was nearly if not quite built up to Thomas street and the so-called Stewart Buildings were on George street, west side, continuing from Liberty to Park street, and the arsenal and Mr. Howland's residence on Dominick street, beyond George, but aside from those and a few other buildings scattered here and there in different parts of the village, and with the exception of Factory Village and Canal Village, the foregoing was Rome as it would appear on a map of about 1850. Embargo was opened from James to Washington street. and no farther, and there were only two or three houses thereon. Court street was opened to Washington, but only two or three buildings were there. All north of Court street and west of Washington was a pasture. It is the purpose of this chapter to note principally the improvements and changes made during the quarter of a century following 1850, while later on we shall attempt to describe the Rome of still earlier years, as well as that of more recent times. For convenience and better understanding of the matter it is taken up by streets.

James Street.—This is one of the oldest streets in Rome and was named after James Lynch, eldest son of Dominick Lynch, the pioneer. About forty-five years ago the old burying ground was considered



VIRGIL DRAPER.

quite out of town and Thomas street was the northern limit of the settled portion, there being but one dwelling beyond, that of Lynden Abell, southeast corner of James and Bloomfield. James street was then considered as finished ready to be fenced up, as if the growth of Rome in that direction had reached its utmost limit. With the exception of the erection of a few additional dwellings, that portion of the street between Liberty and Thomas remained until about 1866. Briefly alluding to the fact that between 1850 and 1870 the brick blocks on the west side of James street from the Erie Canal to near the Mudge block (now owned by Dr. Kingsley), on the corner of Dominick street, and the blocks opposite from Stanwix Hall, to the corner were all erected as well as the north part of the American block, and the buildings opposite from the Merrill block now containing the express office, to the Tallman livery stable, we call more particular attention to those buildings erected between 1865 and 1870. These were the Commercial Hotel, what was formerly the store of Henry Hayden, the Kingsley block, O Knowlton's place, Charles Tuttle's store, and the corner. Passing up James street we find three or four dwellings erected before reaching Thomas street. North of the latter street and east of James, were five dwellings erected between 1867 and 1870, covering the entire vacant grounds between Thomas street and F. E. Bacon's residence. Going onwards towards the burying ground we find that lands used in 1866 for farming purposes, were converted into village lots before 1870 and that seven dwellings on the west side of the street and four on the top of the hill were erected in the period under consideration.

Washington Street.—This is another of the oldest streets of Rome and was probably named after the Father of his Country; but there were scarcely any buildings on it in 1850. The sites now occupied by H. D. Spencer, John D. Oxner, Jim Stevens, A. P. Tuller, M. M. Davis, formerly I. T. Miner, and what were the J. J. Bradt and the Col. J. B.

Bradt places and the Earl Batcheler residence with some surrounding territory was used as late as 1850 as a cow pasture. Messrs. C. Comstock and E. Huntington about 1847 purchased of George Clark the block bounded by George and Washington streets, with Court street on the south, and subsequent thereto purchased lands west of there extending to and across Wood Creek. They opened streets, laid out their lands into village lots, brought them into market, and all that part of Rome in that direction has grown since then to what it now is.

Forty-five years ago a two story frame building stood where Zion church now stands, was used as a school house and was all the public school accommodation Rome then offered. The members of Zion church then owned and held service in the building now owned and occupied by the Universalists and which edifice was ample for their then members. The site now occupied by the brick block of four dwellings erected by Mudge & Doty, near the foot of the street, was occupied by the late residence of the Rev. Moses Gillett and known as the Gillett place. It is now owned by Dr. W. J. P. Kingsley.

About that period Washington street was graded and a plank road made its entire length, costing about \$1,000, the expense of which was collected by the village clerk without extra compensation, to make the burden of tax as light as possible. Between 1866 and 1870 the splendid residence now in the Greenfield estate was erected.

About 1870-71 R. W. Pritchard built a brick store three stories high on the corner of Dominick street, now occupied by Roth Brothers. Next to and adjoining this block Norman King erected a brick building and a part of the same block, and of the same height. Seidell & Baldwin built in close proximity a brick block of the same height, while George Payne in conjunction with Seidell & Baldwin, erected a brick building to be used for shops; this latter is now occupied by Mr. Payne's son.

Dominick Street.—This is one of the oldest streets and with James

were the only two streets Rome had when, in 1796, when the map of "Lynchville" was made by Dominick Lynch. At a still later period and not far from 1800 another map was made on which the name of Lynchville¹ was retained and the following streets laid down: Dominick, Washington, James, Liberty, Madison, Court, Embargo, Jay, Thomas and Bloomfield. None of these, however, was opened to any extent until about 1850, except the four named first.

We cannot ascertain that the number of streets which Rome had in about 1800, as above mentioned, were materially if any increased until about 1850. The purchase of the Clark lands and bringing them into market about that date gave Rome a new impetus; the number of streets in 1870 was seventy-six.

Extensive research has enabled us to present a full statement of the kind and situation of every building which stood on Dominick street prior to 1870, and incidentally to locate them with reference to present occupants. As originally laid out Dominick street extended from the Mohawk River on the east to Wood Creek on the west. Prior to 1836 and before the change of the Erie Canal in Rome to its present location, the street did not run directly over the Black River Canal where it now does, but instead turned off south at an angle of forty-five degrees where the late Mr. Draper's residence was, and crossed where the Black River Canal now is. At that time the Black River Canal was not constructed, but in its place was a feeder connecting the Mohawk River with the canal of the Western Inland Lock Navigation Company. At the point where lock No. 1 is situated there was then an arched bridge over the feeder and a gate to regulate the flow of water through the feeder. Over this bridge the street crossed and then turned north to its present

¹ When or why the village came to be called Rome does not clearly appear, but it is stated that prior to 1800 a number of the then leading citizens of the village were present and when the question came up as to what name should be given to the place, George Huntington, who was a large land owner about Rome, remarked that there were many classical names given to places in this State, but none had as yet been called after the "Eternal City," and he suggested Rome.

location east of the Black River Canal bridge, and proceeded eastward to the river.

We begin now sketches of places and buildings, beginning at the residence of H. K. White (formerly Virgil Draper) and which is located upon the southeast bastion of old Fort Stanwix. Prior to 1810 there was on that site a large square frame dwelling owned by Dominick Lynch and occupied by him when here, but formerly the residence of his son James. In 1825 the building caught fire at midday in midsummer and great effort was made to save it. An old hand engine, which in these days would hardly be considered a first-class squirt gun, was brought out, and in the effort to crowd it beyond its capacity "it bust," and then all hope of saving the building was abandoned. A few years later Mr. Draper purchased the premises, erected a portion of the house and afterwards made improvements and additions thereto. The doors throughout the house, trimmed with old-fashioned brass knobs, were taken from the burning house and are now used in the present building. In the southwest corner of the yard Mr. Lynch had an office in a small wooden building. The office of B. N. & E. Huntington was erected about 1840. A portion of the residence of Alvin Mudge was erected in 1828 by Wheeler Barnes. At that time the trenches, embankments, and some of the pickets of the old fort remained. The old block-house was there, although much decayed and riddled with bullets. Nelson Dawly, later of Annsville, had the job of leveling down and clearing off the block-house and this part of the fort preparatory to the erection of the residence of Mr. Barnes. The house stood on the southwest corner or part of the site of the fort. In the erection of the residence in 1828 the late A. H. Brainerd was one of those who did the carpenter work and Ormond Butler did the mason work. The premises were purchased in 1837 by Mr. Mudge, who afterwards made additions and improvements to the building. The whole site of the fort was sold to Mr. Barnes for about \$1,100 and is now occupied by the residence of the

late John Stryker. It is to be greatly regretted that those grounds were not purchased by the town, village or State and kept sacred and undivided.

The next building was what became and now is the Empire House. It was built and kept for a tavern; Cicero Gould kept it in 1799 and later a Mr. Olmstead, father-in-law of Wheeler Barnes. Mr. Barnes subsequently became the owner, and while residing there had his law office in a small frame building which then stood close by the street in the southeast corner of the yard. There Judge Denio, William Curtis Noyes, N. B. Judd, pursued their law studies. A little incident may be related as showing the history of those days. A. H. Brainerd had a law suit (the only one of his life) before 'Squire Numa Leonard, who kept his justice office in the upper story of his hat shop across the street, to reach which a flight of stairs went up on the outside of the building. Mr. Noyes was employed by Mr. Brainerd, and after a sharp tussle, in which Mr. Noyes and his client were successful, the charge of the attorney was fifty cents! In later years Mr. Noyes received a fee of \$10,000 from one client.

About 1830 Dr. Brown purchased those premises of Wheeler Barnes and enlarged the dwelling. It subsequently passed to C. B. Gay, Judge Foster, and Miss Whittemore. Farther westward on the site afterwards occupied by Dr. Cobb, now the Palmer House, George Huntington about 1793 erected a small frame store. It was later made into or used for a part of his dwelling, and now stands on the east side of James street where it is used as the Brighton Market, whither it was removed about 1850. The dwelling once occupied by Mrs. Merrill, now owned by Rufus Keeney, was erected about 1812 by George Huntington as an addition to his dwelling.

The Merrill block, northeast corner of James and Dominick streets, was erected about 1844. On the site prior to that was Levi Green's store, a large frame building which was removed and now stands on the

Black River Canal where it was used as a vinegar factory by P. Rathbun. It is still standing, but unoccupied. In 1825 the Rome Republican was removed from a building across the street to on or near the site of Armstrong's bookstore, where in an upper room of a frame building it was published by Chauncey Beach. Mr. J. P. Van Size was publishing at the same time the Oneida Republican. In 1830 the two papers united and removed to the Checkered building, north side of Dominick street. It may be a fact worth recording that a newspaper, the Rome Citizen, is now, sixty years later, being published on the same site.

In excavating for the foundation of the Merrill Block, or while digging near there, the skeletons of three or four Indians were found. In fact, there have been found all around the fort many skulls, skeletons, guns, swords, etc., showing that this locality was an important point in the struggle between tribes or nations, and that it was the theater where were enacted some of the most important dramas in our nation's history.

Proceeding westward from the Merrill Block, with pencil and note book in hand, and spectacles on our nose, looking this way and that and taking notes and observations of the changes, and stepping cautiously and carefully about, lest we tread upon some relic or overlook something of importance, we came as near as any one can of falling into a well which was dug more than ninety years ago, at the intersection of James and Dominick streets. All that saved us from tumbling headlong into that "hole in the ground" was the fact of its being filled up and paved over. Those now living here whose memories do not go back more than fifty years have no personal knowledge of its existence; but they who remember sixty or seventy years ago speak of its having a curb around it and afterwards "a town pump" in it, with a wooden trough close by where cattle and horses were watered. No one can tell us when that well was dug.

We reach the American corner and on that spot dig up the fact that prior to 1800 a three story wooden frame hotel was erected on that site, extending west to a ten foot alley which was near where the jewelry store of G. A. Harrington now is. In that year or prior thereto, a man named Logan kept the hotel. Previous to 1820 the hotel was kept by one Isaac Lee and others, and since then at different times by James Thompson, Forman Coleman, Freedom Tibbetts, Benjamin Starr, Brainard Rowe and others. Mr. Rowe was landlord when the building was burned in 1846. Daniel Whedon, father of Alva Whedon, was landlord in 1822-23.

In one of the rooms of that hotel, about 1824-25, General La Fayette, as he passed through Rome, held a sort of levee and was called upon by a large number of our then citizens; one related that he was then only a boy but he went in and had a site of the old marquis.

Next west of the hotel was the "Dr. Stephen White lot" which embraced the five stores of the old Empire block. Just across to the west from this ten foot alley was a small story and a half frame building kept about 1810 by Dr. Stephen White as a hotel. The doctor in 1797 kept a tavern at the lower landing on the Mohawk, about a mile or so east of here and near where Robert McCutcheon formerly resided. It is likely the doctor finding his tavern stand rather lonely, concluded business would be more brisk in the village and so removed to town. About 1820 this hotel was used for stores, the west one being occupied by Peter White, son of Dr. White, as a bookstore, and afterwards by the late Jay Hathaway as a store, and who kept the post office as late as about 1840, when he removed to the southwest corner of James and Dominick streets, and afterwards to the Arcade. In the east part of the White Hotel and next to the alley, where the Cummings tailor store now is, A. A. Pavey traded thirty-two years ago. On the east side of this building and next the alley a pair of rickety stairs led to the upper room, which was once used as a ball room and still later as a hall. In

this hall public meetings and shows were held. It was there that "Sickles's Show" of figures was first exhibited to the Romans, to the great delight and wonder of the boys as well as the men of that period.

Not far from 1843 Simon Matteson who, about 1830, had purchased this Dr. White lot of which we have been writing, overhauled that hotel, put a brick front thereon and closed up the alley and used it for stores. This is now a part of the site of the Empire block.

At the west end of the White lot and about where N. P. Rudd now is, there stood, the fore part of the present century, a small frame building, used as a dwelling about 1820 by Stephen White, son of Dr. White; between this building and the White Hotel ran an alley to a wagon shop in the rear, used by Stephen White. This dwelling was subsequently used as a grocery by Aylmer Keith, Datus E. Valentine, and others. About 1833 Simon Matteson closed up the alley and erected a frame structure with brick front on the sites now occupied by W. H. Rudd, N. P. Rudd and John W. Wilson, and which stood there at the time of the fire of 1846. This structure was occupied in 1843-4 by Ralph Hulburt, afterwards by Howland & Hill, and still later by Nathan Smith & Co., and then by Parker & Mudge.

The next lot west was the Samuel Starr property, or the Stephen Hubbard lot in more recent years, now occupied by P. S. Kingsley. This property embraced the four stores, or nearly so, now occupied by Wardwell Brothers, Edward Halstead, Grogan Brothers and M. M. Davis. On the site now owned by M. M. Davis there was, about 1800, a small frame building once owned and occupied by Samuel Starr, afterwards by Stephen Hubbard, and still later by Alva Mudge, who began keeping house there for the first time in 1826, and after that by Robert Walker. Mr. Starr died early in the present century and the late William Wright was his executor. After the death of Mr Starr the family removed west, most of them to St. Louis, and one of the daughters married Henry C. Geyer, who was United States senator



ALFRED ETHRIDGE.

from Missouri from 1851 to 1857. About 1831 Mr. Walker became the purchaser of the Hubbard House, and, with Jephtha and Luther Matteson, of forty-nine feet of land for \$1,000. Mr. Walker moved the house on the rear of his lot and lived there, while in 1832 he built up a frame store with brick front on the site of the Hubbard House as above described. Mr. Walker came to Rome in 1826 and began work for Solomon Z. Lord, son of Zelotus Lord, who then had a tailor shop on the Merrill block site, just north of where the store of Levi Green was. In 1829 Mr. Walker bought out Mr. Lord, opened a shop in a room or corner store where the express office now is. But let us get back to the Hubbard House. That house was erected by Jonathan B. Brainard, and all of the nails used in its construction were made by Oliver Greenwood, who kept a shop on Liberty street about where the office of Dr. Scudder was twenty years ago. Prior to 1830 there was a vacant space where the stores of Wardwell Brothers and the Grogan Brothers now are, but where Edward Halstead is there stood in 1820 and prior thereto a small 7 by 9 frame structure used for many years by Francis Bicknell as a jewelry store. About 1825 the shop was removed to the Floyd road. In 1831 Mr. Bicknell, in conjunction with J. & L. Matteson, erected a frame structure with brick front on the space above mentioned, leaving an alley between that block and Mr. Walker's store. In that building Mr. Bicknell and Martin Rowley opened the first hardware store in Rome. Lyman Briggs succeeded Mr. Bicknell in the hardware trade and the latter returned to the jewelry business in the same block and continued until about 1860.

Mr. Jephtha Matteson came here at first in 1820, and finally removed and settled here and began business as a cabinet maker and dealer in 1824, and continued the same more than half a century. In the building of J. & L. Matteson, Cheesebrough & Leonard had a drug store, and it was there in about 1843 Mr. Cheesebrough was killed by the bursting of a soda fountain. In one of the stores of Mr. Bicknell, Adam and

Peter Van Patten traded for a while; up stairs in the Jephtha Matteson store Alanson Bennett, about 1833-4, had his law office, and with whom was C. B. Gay for a year or so until he completed his law study, when he opened an office for himself.

Next west of the Hubbard lot was the Bill Smith lot, embracing the stores now occupied by J. Halstead and by Stowell. On this lot was erected about 1793 by John Barnard, a pioneer of Rome, a small low frame building, where a tavern was kept prior to 1800. Subsequently and not far from 1810 a store was kept there by Bill Smith, and afterwards it was kept as a saloon and grocery by Mr. Norton, father of C. H. Norton. That building occupied the site now covered by J. Halstead's store and perhaps a little additional. A little farther west and where Stowell's store now is, was, very early in the century, a small one story frame building occupied at one time prior to 1820 as a saddler shop and afterwards about 1820-5 by Jay Hathaway as a store. In 1826 or thereabouts Dr. Brown purchased the Bill Smith lot, raised the roof of the Bill Smith store, added a story to the upper part and called it the "Checkered building." The store of Mr. Hathaway remained as it was until it was burned in 1846.

On each end of this Checkered building was a flight of stairs going to the upper rooms, which were used as offices. Here Judges Hayden, Foster and Noyes had their offices. In one of the upper back rooms the Rome Republican was published by Eber P. Moon, and afterwards by James H. Harris, until it was removed in the course of a year to the brick building on the site of the block now owned by Mrs. Fanny Stevens Brooks.

In the Checkered building mentioned Alva Mudge in 1823 (the year of its completion) commenced his career in business in the east part, and the late Gen. Jesse Armstrong also began his business career in the west part. That building seems to have been an important and eventful one in many respects. There Alva Mudge, and then Mudge

& Brown, and Mudge & Smith, and others traded, carrying on quite an extensive business in buying grain, selling groceries, etc. There Col. E. B. Armstrong began his clerkship nearly seventy years ago, and there S. W. Mudge commenced his when only thirteen years of age. Calvin Comstock related that when a boy at work on a farm he remembered of drawing rye (which seems to have been the staple kind of grain raised north of us in those days) to that store for sale, and of a large class of patrons going there from the northern section of the county to trade. It was in that building that the fire originated in 1846 which swept away all that side of the street from the American corner to the old Rome Bank.

Proceeding westward from the Checkered building and passing the small store occupied about 1820-5 by Jay Hathaway and crossing an alley which then ran just west of that store, and about on the site of the third store east of the passage way under the Willett House, we reach the Hollister store, which was on the site now occupied by the store of F. M. Hamlin and the store next the alley now vacant. This Hollister store was a story and a half building, gable end to the street, and was built about 1810 and occupied by Alexander Lynch as a store about that time. Afterwards Mr. Hayes, subsequently a partner of the late William Wright, kept a store. In 1823 Cornelius Hollister, who owned a farm and distillery towards Lowell, had a store in company with Dr. Brown in the east part of the building, Dr. Brown having a drug and grocery store in the west part. About 1824 Dr. Brown associated with himself in business with Dr. H. H. Pope, then just beginning business, and the two continued in the trade and practiced medicine. About 1826 Dr. Brown went to the Checkered building, Mr. Hollister continuing alone. Joseph B. Read had a law and justice's office about 1830 in the drug store of Brown & Pope, and afterwards Mr. Hollister had a drug store there. A little west and about where the Willett House was, I. Fowler kept a saloon or grocery store.

Afterwards Dr. H. H. Pope had a drug store underneath and lived overhead. About 1832 a wooden building, used as a cabinet shop and standing on James street on the site of the residence of the late G. W. Pope, was moved to the site of the alley that led to the Willett House stables, and therein Drs. G. W. & H. H. Pope carried on a drug store and grocery business and practiced medicine. In 1840 the rooms over these stores of Drs. Pope were used by Albert D. Wright as a female seminary. It was in the upper story of that building that the Roman Citizen first saw the light, with Calvin B. Gay, editor, and Horace N. Bill, publisher. The first number was dated June 8, 1840. The paper, after being published in that building, was removed in 1845 to the Mudge-Doty block, southwest corner of James and Dominick streets.

Just west of the drug store and residence of Dr. H. H. Pope, above mentioned, and a little east of the old Bank of Rome, there stood more than ninety years ago a small frame tenement, 20 by 30, where Nathaniel Mudge lived (the father of Alva, S. W., and Nathaniel Mudge). In that house Alva Mudge was born in 1804. A few years later that tenement was removed to Liberty street to the site afterwards occupied by the residence of Edward Huntington, and was there for many years and up to about 1845, occupied by Zelotus Lord. Some of the former old men of Rome mention that when boys they went to Mr. Lord to have their shoes made or mended by the village shoemaker.

About 1821 the late Benjamin Wright erected for a residence the brick building afterwards known as the old Bank of Rome—the third brick building erected in Rome. In this dwelling Lynden Abell began keeping house in 1829, paying \$30 rent per annum; and the whole premises being offered him for \$1,200. In 1832 the Bank of Rome was incorporated and the building purchased for a residence for the cashier. A year or so later the wing part was erected for the banking house.

West of this building was the "Long House" and covering the sites

now occupied by the Spencer Hall block and the stores of R. Dunning, I. B. Adams, and the Farmer's National Bank. This Long House property was owned by Benjamin Wright and Bela B Hyde, and prior to 1820 was occupied by them respectively as residences. Mr. Wright removed to his brick residence when it was completed, and later to New York city, and Mr. Hyde about the same time removed to a building below the railroad. Isaac Draper resided in the Long House for a while and not far from 1812 Abby Bullock taught school there. It was destroyed by fire after 1850, having become quite dilapidated and the abode of dissolute and vicious persons. In front of the Long House from about 1812 to 1835 was a row of large locusts, and so along farther east in front of the Hubbard lot at about the same time was a similar row of poplars.

About where the office of the Arlington Hotel is there was erected by a Mr. Sweatman about 1812 or 1814 a two story frame building used by him for a harness shop. About 1818 E. Dorchester published in that building for a year a paper called the Oneida Observer and then went back with it to Utica. The circumstances of its being published here were as follows: In 1818 an effort was made by Utica people to procure the courts to be held in that city and which were then held in Rome and Whitestown. The Romans opposed the effort with great zeal and were aided by the Whitestown people. To oppose the effort the more successfully the Romans prevailed upon Mr. Dorchester to remove the Observer plant to this place. He did so in the fall of that year and changed the name of his paper to the Oneida Observer, and started the paper at the place above mentioned. After battling manfully and successfully in behalf of the Romans, he returned to Utica in 1819 with his press, changed the name back to the Utica Observer and continued its publication there. In 1828 Moses G. Watson had a harness shop in this same building.

On the northeast corner of Washington and Dominick streets ninety

or more years ago Caleb Hammill, father of the late George Hammill, lived in a small frame dwelling then standing there. Afterwards and prior to about 1820 Reuben Hoag used the building as a blacksmith shop, having his residence in the rear, fronting on Washington street. Afterwards Amos Peckham used the building on the corner as a plow factory, and his son after him. Subsequently and not far from 1835 Henry N. Kellogg had a plow factory there, and then it was occupied by Orson and H. Wheeler, and so on. The buildings on that corner have been several times destroyed by fire.

Following is the recapitulation of the buildings from the American Hotel to Washington street just before the fire of 1846 :

- 1st. The American Hotel, a three story frame structure.
- 2d Dr. White hotel building just west of the alley. Two stores with brick fronts.
- 3d. Two frame stores with brick fronts, where the Matteson and Budd stores were.
- 4th. Frame store, brick front, of Robert Walker.
- 5th. Just west of an alley three frame stores with brick fronts of Matteson and Francis Bicknell.
- 6th. The Checkered building.
- 7th. A story and a half building occupied in 1820 by Jay Hathaway.
- 8th. Hollister store, west of an alley.
- 9th. Drug store of Dr. Pope and female seminary.
- 10th. Banking house.
- 11th. Long House.
- 12th. Small frame structure corner of Washington street.

There were then no flag sidewalks or paved streets ; hardly a plank walk the entire length ; no gas to light the streets and stores, but instead tallow candles shed their feeble and fickle rays in store and dwelling, tending to make darkness visible, and when business closed for the night and the " tallow dips " were extinguished, Rome of fifty years ago reposed as it were in a cloud of midnight darkness.

CHAPTER VIII.

THE GREAT FIRE AND THE REBUILDING OF DOMINICK STREET.

Before daylight of January 6, 1846, occurred the great fire in Rome, sweeping away every structure from the American corner to the Bank of Rome, and leaving not a vestige except a mass of smouldering ruins and here and there a few tall black chimneys, like so many sad, sorrowful, yet mute witnesses of the desolation around. The fire originated in the shoe shop of John McCarrick in the west end, up stairs, of the Checkered building, the flames spreading each way, licking up with its forked tongues the wooden structures and making a barren waste where a few hours before were heard the hum of busy trade and the tread of thriving industry. It was a clear, cold, still night, the flames going skyward as straight and swift as an arrow, and yet spreading each way with almost equal rapidity. The next morning on the American property near the alley, George Fox, a relative of Roland Fox, was instantly killed by a brick from a falling chimney hitting him on the head. Mr. Gordenier Freer told the writer that he stood close by the side of Mr. Fox when he was hit and was the first to go to his assistance.

That indeed seemed a dark day for Rome, for there were at that time only a few wealthy business men here who could stand such a loss. But in that month of seeming disaster, Rome took a new departure, and by shaking off the ragged and worn out habiliments with which she had been encumbered for the previous fifty years, and putting on a new garb and appearing in better and brighter apparel, her citizens from that time took a more elevated standpoint. It often happens that what are deemed afflictions at first are but blessings in disguise, and that it is essential sometimes that villages as well as nations shall be purified by

fire, that they may be purged of the dross and come out of the trial all the purer for the ordeal. The purification was what was needed, and Rome has profited thereby.

In the course of a few months the work of rebuilding began and in that year Jesse Matteson and S. W. Mudge erected the new American fronting on Dominick street. In the same year Simon Matteson built the Empire block. Robert Walker at the same time in connection with Luther and Jephtha Matteson, closed up the alley between them and erected new stores. The late Judge Seth B. Roberts in the same year erected the store next east of where Wardwell Brothers now are ; in 1847 Mudge & Doty erected the store long occupied by them where Joseph H. Halstead now is, and H. W. Wilcox in the same year erected the store where Stowell now is, and E. B. Armstrong that adjoining on the east. Dr. H. H. Pope in the same year erected the three stores of Archer & Snyder, Hall & Co., and G. T. Jones & Son (now A. I. Grouse, F. M. Hamlin and the store adjoining the alley), and the Willett House, and after 1860 erected the other stores between there and the Bank of Rome, and altered that over to be uniform with the rest of the block. About 1864 A. W. Spencer built the Spencer Hall block, now owned by F. Morton, and in the same year F. W. Oliver erected the store next beyond. About 1850 Peter Toepp built a three story brick store, now the Farmer's National Bank.

We will now consider the south side of Dominick street from the Black River Canal and including the site of the Hill block, southeast corner of James and Dominick streets. In 1820 the following structures were standing on that portion of the street :

1st. A frame blacksmith shop erected prior to 1820 and occupied by one Holden, and to whom Lyman Briggs succeeded about 1819. The shop stood on the east end of the lot and was the first building west of where the canal (then the feeder) now is. In that shop Col. John B. Bradt commenced work seventy years ago for Lyman Briggs,



THOMAS M. FLANDRAU, M. D.

and subsequently, about 1831, went in company with his employer. The shop was removed later to make room for a dwelling which was erected on the site and afterwards, about 1850, burned.

2d. On the west end of the Briggs lot was a small dwelling standing prior to 1820 and about 1812; who built or who lived there excepting Mr. Holden, no one can tell. About 1819 Lyman Briggs purchased the premises and went there to reside and to carry on the blacksmith shop. That dwelling was afterwards made into a double house. The space between the shop and Mr. Briggs's house was then unoccupied.

3d. The next building west was a small frame dwelling standing in 1820 and prior thereto, on the site occupied by the residence of George Barnard, sr., now occupied by John Singleton. There was then a vacant space of thirty feet, perhaps, between the Briggs house and this small frame dwelling. Who built the house or when it was built is not clearly known, though it is remembered that it stood there as early as 1812. In this building Elisha Burrows, father of Capt. Orange Burrows, resided along about 1812-16; he was a recruiting officer in the United States service and was so engaged at this place in 1812. He died about 1828. James Graves resided there nearly seventy-five years ago; he was afterwards drowned. In the same dwelling John Sheldon, father of Samuel H. Sheldon, lived many years ago, and Loren Williams, father-in-law of D. W. Healt, also resided there.

4th. The next building west was the Luke Frink house, standing on the east end of his lot and very near if not close to the building above described. It was built by Mr. Frink about 1810 and he resided there until about 1830, when he removed to the Long House and, it is said, died there about 1837. This dwelling was known at one period as the "little yellow house," from its color. Elijah Wight, who came here in 1819, resided in the Frink house from 1836 to 1841; subsequently Rev. Chauncey Goodrich, who died in Utica, resided there for a time.

5th. Next west was a small frame building occupied by Numa Leonard in 1819, and prior, as a hat shop. It is said to have been occupied prior to 1812 by a man named Edes. In that shop Esquire Leonard manufactured hats, commencing with stripping the fur from the hides of animals, whipping it out, and going through the entire process until the hat was completed. There George Barnard, sr., deceased, learned his trade over seventy-five years ago; he subsequently became a partner of his employer, and then carried on the business under his own name. A flight of stairs ran up on the outside and east part of the building to the upper part, where Esquire Leonard held his courts while justice of the peace; the shop was afterwards converted into a dwelling.

6th. The next building west was the Numa Leonard house, occupied by him for nearly forty years, now the site of the residence of Mrs. Martin Hyde. The kitchen part was erected about 1800 and tradition says that it was used as a store about that period. About 1819 Esquire Leonard built the upright part of the dwelling, afterwards owned and occupied by Charles E. Saulpaugh. Mr. Leonard came here about 1815, and his name often appears in the records of the town as holding the offices of supervisor, justice, and assessor at different periods. About 1810 Sidney Smith resided in the old part of the house, and subsequently removed to Troy. The premises where the dwelling stood were at one time owned by Samuel Starr and by his executors were conveyed to Numa Leonard.

7th. The premises next west were those of Henry Huntington. He came here prior to 1800. In 1807 he purchased of Robert Dill for \$500 the land extending from the Leonard lot on the east to James street on the west, being 396 feet on Dominick street and 200 feet wide, extending back from said street. The old house of Mr. Huntington is said to have been built by Mr. Dill quite early in the present century; the addition to it, afterwards occupied by Dr. Flandrau, was erected by Mr. Huntington about 1822.

8th. The rear or east end of the Hill block, now Saulpaugh block, and perhaps a small part of the grounds now occupied by the Opera House, were occupied in 1804 by a frame structure, which tradition says was used as a store about that period, making three small stores in that vicinity about that time, the others being George Huntington's store, on the site of the Palmer House, lately the residence of Dr. Cobb, and one in the building which afterwards became the residence of Numa Leonard. It was a two-story dwelling and occupied as early as 1812 and also later by James Sherman (father of Mrs. Judge Foster), who had his law office and a justice's office in the wing part on the west side of the building. There Judge Foster pursued his law study and subsequently resided in the dwelling. Still later Pelatiah Rawson resided there and had a school in or near a building on the site of the new bank building—the Central National; still later Dr. Cobb resided there until about 1850. The property then changed hands and the building was removed at first to the corner of Liberty and Jay streets, and afterwards to the south side of Dominick street, where it was occupied by Mr. Bell, or Bell & Pond, as a carriage shop; it was subsequently burned.

9th. Not far from 1800 John Barnard, one of Rome's early settlers, erected a frame dwelling on the southeast corner of James and Dominick streets, fronting on James street, where the Saulpaugh block now is. In this building Mr. Barnard resided for a while. He was father of Rev. John Barnard, a somewhat noted divine. In this building Bill Smith kept store about 1814 (he having about 1810 kept a store on the site of the old Checkered building, as before stated), and for a few years he was alone in the store, and then it was kept by him and Amos Flint until about 1823. Not far from the latter year Mr. Smith went out and Mr. Flint erected a dining room and parlors on the rear or east end of the building, changed it to a hotel and kept it as such until about 1832 or 1834. About that period there was considerable agitation in rela-

tion to the temperance cause—the old Washingtonian principles taking a pretty strong hold upon some of the people, and Mr. Flint left the hotel and was succeeded by Thomas Dugan, who in turn was succeeded by Horace Putnam about 1836. The latter continued there until the Hill block was erected about 1852 and the old building torn down. Bill Smith died in Rome about 1835 and Mr. Flint died at Nyack on the Hudson a little before 1870.

The foregoing are the several structures on the south side of the street in 1820. About 1822 Lyman Briggs erected a frame wagon shop occupied at different times by the following: Preston H. Grover as a carriage trimmer; J. & L. Matteson as furniture dealers; James Graves for a carriage shop; Nathan Lawton in the same business. In that shop Isaac Knox worked some sixty-five years ago. Not far from 1831 the building was cut into two parts and one part made into a small dwelling and removed to the rear of Esquire Barnard's lot, and the other part converted into a dwelling where it stood. That building and the blacksmith shop of Mr. Briggs disappeared about the time of the construction of the Black River Canal. Subsequently two or three houses were built by Mr. Armstrong on the sites occupied by the wagon and blacksmith shops, and in one of which William H. Parkhurst resided at the time of the fire about 1850, when those buildings east of the Briggs house were destroyed.

Not far from 1830 Esquire Barnard purchased the premises he owned at the time of his death, and erected the dwelling on the west end of his lot mentioned above in 3d and where he resided for some years. A few years later he erected a dwelling next to the Briggs house, into which he moved. The dwelling he thus vacated M. D. Hollister occupied a while, also Nathan Lawton, John Wood and Israel S. Parker. The latter purchased the building, but afterwards conveyed it back to Esquire Barnard.

Starting from the store on the southwest corner of James and Dom-

inick streets, and proceeding westward we note the following: Prior to 1837 Messrs. George and Henry Huntington owned sixty-six feet fronting on Dominick street, which included the sites of the Kingsley block, corner of James and Dominick streets, and the First National Bank, and extending back the same width 240 feet to the canal. There was then one building, the old store of that firm, fronting on James street, and only one on those grounds, which then stood on Dominick street, and that was the store which was occupied many years by Gurdon Huntington, and which stood on the site of the bank. That store was a lean-to east of and adjoining the Rome Coffee House, having a roof which sloped to the east. That building was erected about 1808 and was occupied as a store by Gurdon Huntington until about 1836. This store was moved off and placed on James street and there used as a grocery or saloon by the late Joseph Beecham. The only building upon the lands above described prior to 1838 were those two mentioned. That space sixty years ago was used as a common over which cattle and sheep and swine roamed at pleasure and across which ran well trodden foot paths and pretty well beaten wagon tracks. Piles of lumber lay scattered here and there upon those grounds, interspersed with potash kettles, among all of which the boys of that early time played hide and seek.

CHAPTER IX.

THE CANAL ROUTE CHANGED AND THE CONSEQUENCES.

It is important to bear in mind that prior to 1838 and in fact up to the spring of 1841, the Erie Canal ran through "Canal Village," and that its present route through Rome was once the channel used many years by the Western Inland Lock Navigation Company—a canal constructed about 1798 to connect the waters of Wood Creek near the arsenal site with those of the Mohawk River about a mile east of here and near where Robert McCutcheon formerly resided. In 1837 and prior thereto the Ronans were much interested and considerably agitated over the question of changing the old route of the Erie Canal to its present one. It was quite generally believed that if the proposed change could be made, real estate in the business portion of the then village would greatly increase in value. Delegations went to Albany and great efforts were made to procure the passage of a law directing the alteration proposed. The younger men of that time and those then in the prime of life who had not secured a competence for themselves and were looking forward with hope and bright anticipations to the future, were naturally more zealous in the movement and more sanguine as to its good results, than they who had acquired an ample fortune, or were on the down hill road of life and nearly at its foot. The subject of the proposed change was long under discussion in Rome and the topic of general conversation. In the spring of 1836 in a casual conversation between the Messrs. Huntington and Alva Mudge, the latter was asked by the former what in his opinion the grounds above mentioned would be worth, provided the canal was changed. Mr. Mudge, with no previous thought of purchasing, inquired what they

considered a good fair price for those premises then. Five thousand dollars was the answer. Mr. Mudge said in reply that if the Legislature made a change of the canal route, he and his partner, R. S. Doty, would give \$10,000 (just double what the land was then considered worth). The offer was accepted and, although the Legislature did not pass a law directly making the change, the matter was left to the canal commissioners to do as they thought best. This was deemed equivalent to an alteration and the premises were transferred in 1837 to Mudge & Doty. In 1838 the firm erected the three stores, or buildings, in one block on the site of the Kingsley block and First National Bank.

Before the buildings where the bank now is were completed, John B. Jervis purchased those premises for \$4,000 and continued owner until 1851, when he sold to the Rome Exchange Bank for \$6,000. In that year the bank was incorporated and started in August, with the late R. B. Doxtater, president, and F. H. Thomas, cashier. All the three buildings at that time were only three stories high with shingle roofs. After that the respective owners added a fourth story and tin roofs. On the completion of the block in 1838, Mudge & Doty occupied the corner store for dry goods, Dennis Davenport the second one, and Benjamin F. Jervis and a Mr. Brayton the third one. About 1840 George Brown succeeded Mudge & Doty in the corner store and the latter took the third store, vacated by Jervis & Brayton. In 1839 Mudge & Doty erected the brick block on James street known for a long time as Washington Saloon, and subsequently occupied it for a hardware store in connection with their dry goods. About 1842 a portion of the corner store was occupied by Dr. Cobb for a drug store, and about 1844 Mudge & Doty again occupied the corner store for groceries, the second one for hardware, and the third one for dry goods.

The Fort Stanwix Bank was organized in 1847 and began business on that corner in February, in 1848, with David Utley, president ; and H. T. Utley, teller. In the third story of the corner building the Roman

Citizen was published from 1845 to 1849. About 1850 and later P. B. Langford occupied the second store for hardware, and afterward Pell & Wright and then H. W. Pell carried on the same business there; still later L. L. Lewis used the store for an insurance office and built up a large business.

Not far from 1849 Nathaniel Mudge, one of Rome's pioneer merchants, conducted a dry goods trade in the third store and after him Isaac T. Miner carried on the same business there and was succeeded by the Rome Exchange Bank.

The Rome Sentinel was removed to the second and third floors over the bank early in 1852 and on July 15 of that year the first number of the Daily Sentinel was issued. The weekly was published there until 1863, the daily having meanwhile, in 1860, been discontinued; in 1863 the office was removed to its present location on James street.

Previous to 1800 a tavern called the Rome Coffee House was erected on the ground now occupied by Jonas W. Armstrong and Smith & Hammann, formerly E. H. Shelley and H. W. Mitchell. The main part was of wood, three stories high, and on the east was a wing or lean-to two stories high with the roof sloping to the east, while on the west side was a similar wing, the roof sloping westward. It was kept in 1800 by Solomon Rich who subsequently removed to Western. Not far from the year 1804 and later Parker Halleck kept the hotel, and being a tailor he worked at his trade in the bar-room. In the chamber of the upright part the Columbian Gazette, the first paper printed in Rome, was published for a while in 1800 by Walker & Eaton; it was removed to a building then standing on the west side of James street. The Masonic fraternity of Rome held their regular meetings in one of the upper rooms of the Coffee House prior to the erection in 1824 of the Masonic Hall, which later became the Universalist church.

Not far from 1818 the Coffee House was kept by Charles Graham, and soon afterward by his wife. On the 1st day of April, 1827,

Henry Tibbits became its purchaser for \$1,100 and kept it as a hotel until April 1, 1839. A jollification meeting was held in that old Coffee House by some old Roman citizens who were interested in the Bank of Rome in 1832, when they received news of the passage of the law authorizing the establishment of the bank; that was indeed a great era in the history of Rome and had an important bearing on her future prospects. In 1839 the lower part of the Coffee House was converted into stores and the upper part used for dwellings. The east store was occupied by E. W. Wight as a hat store, where he was succeeded about 1842 by a Mr. Avery who kept a dry goods store. He was succeeded by William McPhee, who was a tailor. The west store was occupied in 1839 and two or three years later by Alva Whedon, S. B. Stevens, and Thomas Dugan as a grocery store, and afterward by G. B. Morse and E. M. Hinckley, and still later, in 1843-4, by H. W. Tibbits & Co., who were there at the time of the fire.

On the 22d of February, 1844, all the buildings then standing between where the First National Bank now is and the new building of the Central National Bank were destroyed by fire; in the same year Henry Tibbits built the block now occupied by James W. Armstrong, and Smith & Hammann. In its third story was Tibbits Hall, for many years the main and only public hall in Rome and which was in its day considered as much of a hall as the later Opera House was. In it shows, concerts, public meetings and lectures were held as they were at a much earlier date in the hall of the Stephen White hotel. In 1848-50, when Rome was without a court house, the courts were held there, and the writer remembers a number of legal contests and forensic efforts in important trials between J. A. Spencer, Henry Foster, C. P. Kirkland, Thomas H. Flandrau, A. Bennett, Charles Tracy, B. Davis Noxon, and other eminent lawyers of that time.

On the first day of April, 1867, just forty years to a day from the

time when the property was purchased by Henry Tibbets, his son, H. W. Tibbits, devisee, sold the premises for \$15,000 to H. W. Mitchell. The alley just west of it was originally a ten foot alley. Where the store occupied by John G. Bissell, formerly G. N. Bissell, is there stood very early in the present century a red frame store one and a half stories high, which was used as such about 1814 and several years later by Jay Hathaway. When Mr. Hathaway moved across the street about 1823, John Eddy succeeded him in this red store. It was an old building and rotted down or was taken away about 1828. In that year Gen. Jesse Armstrong and Martin Galusha, who had become the owners of the premises, erected a three-story frame building on that site, in which they carried on business in general merchandise, stoves and tin-ware. That building was burned in the fire above mentioned and the present building was erected in 1844 and occupied by Mr. Bissell.

The next building west and where the store of F. E. Brockett, formerly J. D. Ely, now is was a two-story frame structure erected about or soon after the year 1800. Dr. Matthew Brown conducted a drug store there prior to 1810, and afterwards he and Dr Blair were associated there in the same business. In 1811 Dr. Brown sold out and removed to Rochester. Not far from 1815 Stephen Hubbard had a store there and a year or two later he and Oliver Grosvenor were in company there, and continued until 1826. In 1827 Dr. Arva and Abner B. Blair kept a drug store there; afterwards Charles Brown was in business there and also Lyman Briggs, and then Merrill & Hayden had a grocery and continued there until the fire. Over the store the law firm of Foster, Stryker & Tracy had an office prior to 1838, in which year Tracy retired and went to Utica and C. Comstock took his place in the firm. The present building was erected by Henry G. Giles in 1844, who purchased the premises of Dr. Blair and sold them to Leonard House, and he sold in 1866 to J. D. Ely.

It was in the upper part of this building that Oliver Grosvenor had his school, which is noticed further on.

Prior to 1810 the grounds between the store of G. N. Bissell & Son and the building erected by the Central National Bank were owned by Stephen Hubbard, who had a store on the site where F. E. Brackett now is. Next west was an alley and then on the grounds where the New York millinery store (kept by Miss Milligan) now is was a small frame structure, supposed to have been erected by Mr. Hubbard, and which was occupied by a millinery shop about 1816 by Miss Marsh, who afterwards became Mrs. Arden Seymour. Henry Hayden, father of Cyrus Hayden, and Mrs. A. Sandford, occupied the building as a shoe store about 1826, and after him Numa Leonard sold hats there, and after him Esquire Barnard was engaged in the same business in the same building at the time of the fire in February, 1844. Next west, where the stores of Casey Bros. and S. G. Visscher stand, was a story and a half wooden building occupied prior to 1820 by Dr. A. Blair for his office and drug store; after him Silas Lewis had a shoe store there and after him Amos Parmalee erected a building below the railroad where Morgan L. Brainerd formerly resided, and later L. Hower & Son had a store. Jesse Bennett, brother of the late Alanson Bennett, kept a jewelry store there. He afterwards removed to Oswego, and after him and not far from 1832 Francis Butler conducted a jewelry store in one side of the building and his wife a millinery shop on the other side. About 1836 Francis Bicknell succeeded Mr. Butler and kept a jewelry store there, and Miss Charlotte Cowles succeeded Mrs. Butler in the millinery business in the same store. In about 1842 Andrew Conlon kept a dry goods store about where Wolff & Doyle's store now is, and in his place of business the fire originated in February, 1844, which destroyed all the buildings from that point east to and including the Rome Coffee House. Not far from 1827 and perhaps prior thereto A. & A. B. Blair purchased of Stephen Hubbard all of this property from the store of J. G. Bissell (successor to G. N. Bissell & Son) to the Central National Bank building. In 1844 were

erected the buildings now there. The west building was an arcade in which the post-office was kept from about 1845 to 1852, when it was removed to Elm Row.

The ground where the bank building is was vacant until 1817, when the late William Wright built on that site a brick building to be used by him for a store. Mr. Wright occupied the building a number of years. Not far from 1834 Joseph Stringham, who was the first cashier of the old Rome Bank, became the owner of the brick store and also the grounds across the alley where Spencer & White's store now is, which also belonged to Mr. Wright. Mr. Stringham sold the store which was afterwards the bank building, about that year to Judge Roberts and he to J. B. Bradt, and the latter conveyed to the bank. The building was twice burned out, although the walls were not destroyed. Peter R. Worden, afterwards of New York city, had a store there about 1839. In 1844 Peter Van Patten occupied the west part of the store with dry goods and Henry Seth Roberts the east part as a book store. Judge Roberts sold the premises for \$7,000 to the bank in 1854, when that institution was incorporated.

Passing across the alley we reach the site where Spencer & White now are. These grounds were purchased by William Wright of John Barnard about 1804. There was on that site about that time a frame building, one and a half stories high, used by Mr. Wright for a store; on the east side next the alley was a lean-to which he used for a counting room. After he built and moved into the brick store east of the alley he rented the frame building thus vacated for a store and the lean-to for a shop or office. In the store Isaac Draper traded previous to or not far from 1820. Elam Warner was also there, and after him and not far from 1823 Drs. Blair and Furniss had a drug store in the building. After them Charles Brown kept a grocery there and made a specialty of selling Rochester flour; he was formerly a soldier at the United States Arsenal, and not far from 1826 kept a bake shop on

James street, a little north of T. J. Broderick's store, formerly Mr. Miner's bookstore. About 1835 he built the house on Liberty street where Mrs. L. E. Elmer now resides. A. Bennett had his office in that lean-to not far from 1825. In 1834 or thereabouts John Bryden published the Rome Telegraph in the back part of the main building, the entrance to the printing office being from the rear part of the alley. In that office George F. Bicknell served as a printer's devil and learned the art of type setting more than sixty years ago. Not far from 1835 Jacob Stevens became the owner of the premises and soon afterward changed the building to a hotel, calling it the Farmer's Hotel. It was kept by him until about 1850 when Messrs. Doxtater, Brayton & Howland purchased the premises and erected thereon the store now occupied by Spencer & White.

Some time prior to 1800 there was erected on the grounds where now stands the stores occupied respectively by F. E. Bacon & Co., and D. L. Greenfield, (formerly by Miner & Jackson, and T. L. Kingsley & Son), a frame building long known as the McGraw house. Why it was so called or who built it is not known. In that building in 1799 was commenced the publication of the Columbian Gazette, the first paper printed and published in Rome, the later career of which is recorded further on.

About 1807 Elijah Worthington for \$500 purchased sixty-six feet on Dominick street which embraced the site of these stores and the ground where the store of Henry Wolff now is. The McGraw house was then standing there, and occupied the ground of the store of F. E. Bacon & Co. and half of that occupied by the store of Mr. Kingsley. It was a two story frame building, with green blinds, eaves to the street, the front door in the center of the house, and the hall running through. The house stood about a foot below the sidewalk and about 1820 it and the front yard were finely shaded by trees. West of the house was an alley; and on the west end of the lot Mr. Worthington

about 1816 built a small frame structure for a hat store, and which he used as such for nearly or quite twenty years. In this shop E. W. Wight worked for eleven years and about 1831 went into the same business in the shop, at first in company with his former employer, and afterward alone; and there Rufus Keeney commenced learning his trade nearly seventy years ago. In 1838 Mr. Worthington sold the premises to Jackson Tibbits and built and removed to the house on northwest corner of Dominick and Kossuth streets, west of Wood Creek. Mr. Tibbits converted the McGraw house into stores, occupying the west part himself for a bookstore, while in the east part S. H. Sheldon had a shoe shop or store. About 1840 Mr. Howe kept the shoe store and the building stood there until it burned about 1851. In the hat shop Col. Arden Seymour kept a grocery in 1839 and several years after; his advertisement of "Good tea, sweet molasses and sour vinegar" was long remembered. Still later Jeremiah B. Hays, a hatter, kept a saloon in that hat store, and after him John Harrington had a saloon there, and until he removed to the Spencer Hall block. That shop was burned at the time the dwelling house was. About 1839-40 Mr. Tibbits sold the premises to Alva Mudge and John Stryker, and the latter conveyed to A. Spencer the grounds where the two stores were, and A. W. Spencer about 1852 erected the stores of Miner & Jackson and T. L. Kinksley, now F. E. Bacon and D. L. Greenfield. The store where J. C. Smith is was erected about the same time by J. C. Hoyt, who was the purchaser of the grounds.

The next lot west embraced the grounds now occupied by the stores of G. W. Jones and Jones & Roberts, and extended west to an alley which ran about where the dividing line was between the stores of Jones & Roberts and Williams & Edwards. About 1800 Nathaniel Mudge (father of Alva, S. W., and Nathaniel) purchased those premises and about 1804 erected a story and a half frame building on the east end of the lot, to be used as a tin shop; this shop was rented and used by the

United States government as a recruiting office in 1812. Military scenes were enacted there during the war of 1812, and many Romans responded to the call for volunteers. Major Samuel Dill, a Roman was at Sackett's Harbor in the war; Joshua Hathaway was a major and quartermaster-general and for a time in command of the post, and his son Jay was a lieutenant and for a time served as paymaster, and his subsequent son-in law, Judge Beardsley, was adjutant. John Westcott was colonel of the Rome regiment and Joshua G. Green, lieutenant-colonel, and Rudd, Hinckley, Fillmore, Church, Grannis and Peck were captains who went to the Harbor to defend the frontier. Dennis Davenport and Wheeler Barnes from about 1816 to 1826 occupied both buildings under consideration for general merchandise and grain and then R. H. Hulburt and Charles P. Wetmore were there in the same business and built a storehouse in the rear for grain. Mr. Davenport went to New York about 1827 and was in business there, but returned to Rome and engaged in business here in 1839 in the second store from the corner of the Mudge & Doty block. Nor for from 1835-40 the store was occupied by Mr. Draper as a grocery and by M. W. Pruyne as a saddler, and Elias Spencer had a store there; afterward from about 1843 to 1848 L. E. Elmer and J. M. Root had a bakery there. Those buildings were burned in 1851 or thereabouts and Virgil Draper erected the two stores now there.

Where the store of H. J. Carmody & Co. (formerly Williams & Edwards) now is, there stood prior to 1800 a small frame building which was occupied not far from 1819 by Ephraim Shepard as a dwelling. It was the Lynch estate property and the land and block now there have not passed out of the hands of the owners of that estate. It was afterwards occupied by Judge Roberts as a law office, and continued in such use until it was burned about 1851. The brick store on the site was built in the next year by the Lynch estate. The next brick building was erected in 1817 by B. B. Hyde for a store.

Some eighty-five or more years ago there was erected on the site of the Tremont House, now the site of stores occupied by Karl Burkard, A. M. Jackson & Co., and W. J. Lasher, a two story frame house with a wing on the east side. There was a passage way between it and the brick building last above spoken of. Who built the house or when is not known. The first person living there, as near as can now be ascertained, was Dr. Alden, whose wife was a sister to the father of Mrs. Dr. H. H. Pope. Dr. Alden used the wing for his office; he removed to Redfield. After him and about 1820 Judge Beardsley was residing there, using the wing for his law office. After him and not far from 1824, Leonard Dunton, brother-in-law of B. P. Johnson, resided there and had his tailor shop in the wing. There William McPhee worked sixty-five years ago. Mr. Dunton died there about 1832; he was an active member of the Presbyterian church and had taken part in forming the Second Presbyterian (Congregational) church, but the day of its dedication was the date of his funeral. Nathan Lawton, wagon-maker, resided there afterwards and after him J. M. Orton. The building was burned not far from 1838 and Mr. Orton soon afterward erected a part of the Tremont House and used it as a cabinet shop. Jacob Stevens subsequently purchased the premises and about 1850 converted the building into a hotel. In 1856 he gave it the name, Fremont House, that being the year in which Fremont ran for president. A few years afterward Mr. Stevens changed the "F" to a "T" making the name Tremont.

Prior to 1825 there was standing on the grounds where the block which Hamman and George Benner built about 1868 stood, a two-story frame house, which was used by tenants and belonged to Caleb Putnam. That was the only building then standing between the Dunton house and the site occupied by Ethridge & Co., and it was there as early as 1810. It was occupied by the lowest class of tenants, was most always filled, and was considered a disgrace; it was the "Five



J. S. HASELTON.

Points" of Rome. At one period it was called the Catterfield House, but why no one can tell. Old citizens referred to it with shame over its existence, and at the same time with suppressed laughter over the fate which befell it. It at last became so obnoxious to the Romans that about 1828, one night in the early part of June, a crowd collected and demolished all of the upper story, first driving the inmates out. The next Monday it was currently reported and generally believed that as only the upper story was destroyed, it would be rebuilt; to prevent such a calamity a crowd collected that evening and leveled the whole building to the ground. It is said that John Myers, who died many years ago, was the leader of the party. A judgment was obtained against him for the offense and he remained on the limits a long time, not being able or willing to pay.

About 1831 Allen and Lyman Briggs erected a frame blacksmith shop on the part of the site of this Catterfield House. A few years later, when the shop had become too small for their business, they sold it about 1834 to J. B. Bradt, who removed it to James street. There Mr. Bradt worked long and successfully at his business. Subsequently the shop was removed to the premises afterwards occupied by Rev. Mr. Harris and there made into a barn. Messrs. Briggs erected a brick shop on the site of the one removed and about 1837 it was purchased by Mr. Bradt, who carried on his trade there.

Not far from 1830 Nathan Lawton erected a wagon shop with a brick front on the site or near it of the Hagar block. That was burned about 1837. On the site about where Hammann Brothers now are, M. G. Watson about the same time erected a small building for a harness shop, which was burned at the same time with the wagon shop above mentioned. Mr. Watson then built on the same spot another small shop, which was used for many years as a beer saloon by J. Wolf and George Benner. It was erected about the time the Astor House in New York city was built and so Mr. Jasper Lynch jokingly called it the Astor

House, and by that name it was quite generally known. That shop was removed to the rear when the present block was built. The Hagar block was erected some forty-five years ago by Benjamin Lehmaer, for some time a merchant here and who removed to New York city. J. P. Hagar and George Hammann purchased the block.

As early as about 1800 there was standing where the store of A. Ethridge & Co. now is, a story and a half frame dwelling with barn in the rear, occupied about 1810 and many years after by Nathaniel Mudge, father of Alva, Nathaniel and S. W. Mudge. David Warner lived there in 1820 and many years thereafter. Jesse and E. B. Armstrong purchased the premises of Mr. Warner and moved the house to the rear of the lot, and continued its use as a dwelling. On the site thus made vacant Messrs. Armstrong erected another frame building which was used by Tibbetts & Culver for a cabinet shop, and the east part by O. Wheeler & Son (who is now living in Vineland, N. J., ninety years old), as a plow factory. This and the Warner house were burned about 1837.

In the center of the two streets where Dominick and Washington cross each other there stood a well seventy-five years ago, from which residents in that vicinity supplied themselves with water. There was also a well at the same time in the public square at the American corner, and also one at the corner of James and Embargo streets. These three landmarks (or rather water marks) indicate where the chief part of the population of Rome was at that time. That supply of water seemed sufficient for the Romans then for extinguishing fires and for domestic purposes. The house once familiarly known as the Deacon Peggs place, stood on the southwest corner of Dominick and Washington streets, where the Glessman-Hower block now stands, or a portion of it, eighty-five years ago. As early as 1816 a man named Cooley resided there, and had a blacksmith shop in the rear. It was for a long time called the Coorey place. Afterward the father of

Stephen Brewer resided there, and subsequently Gurdon Huntington became the owner; he repaired the house, added to and otherwise improved it. In 1830 Robert Walker resided in the rear part and in that year William Curtis Noyes went to housekeeping in the front part, there being no intercommunication between the two parts. In after years when Mr. Noyes became one of the most celebrated lawyers in this State and lived in his own mansion on Fifth avenue, when he was worth \$300,000 with a steady yearly income from his profession of some \$30,000, he frequently inquired of his Rome acquaintances about that house, and always referred to his residence there as among the happiest and most satisfactory experiences of his whole life, although there were then only two or three rooms in the dwelling, and nothing grander or richer on its floor than a rag carpet. Deacon Peggs moved there about 1845 and carried on the carriage business in the rear. S. R. Butterfield was then Deacon Peggs's foreman in the blacksmith shop.

The next lot west was the Parker Halleck lot. Mr. Halleck lived as early as 1813 and Judge Beardsley as early in 1817 in a house on the site where the block owned by Mrs. Purdy now stands, and used the house east where the New York Millinery is as his tailor shop. In that shop as early as 1818 the first Sabbath school in Rome was held under the guidance of William Hammill. W. E. Wright was one of the pupils. In 1823 and later it was used for a private school, where Harriet Alden, Almira Selden, Abby Bullock and others taught at different times. There and then Jabez Wight, George F. Bicknell and others went to school when barefooted striplings some sixty-five years ago. Subsequently Mr. Gillett, father-in-law of J. M. Orton, resided there and he added to and improved the building. Afterward Warren G. Brainard lived there, then Dr. Cobb (1842), and after that A. A. Pavey resided there many years until he sold out to Mr. Applegate.

In the Parker Halleck dwelling house on the site of the Purdy block,

Mr. Wilbur, a wagon maker, resided after Mr. Halleck. About 1823 Dr. George Brown resided there and after him Leonard Dunton, who afterward went into the dwelling on the site of the Tremont House. About 1828 Anson Parmalee resided there and after that J. M. Orton, and then Solomon Purdy, who went to California. That house was built before 1800, and was raised and improved after 1830. We must not forget the small "vine-covered cottage" which then stood next west, and where Marriott's blacksmith shop stood in later years, and where the Smith Corcoran block now stands; it was about half a story high and sunk in the ground. That was an old building and the first man residing there was probably Levi Howard, a Rome constable. That was seventy years ago, and it was an old house then. In those days the usual mode of conveyance into the country was on horseback; Mr. Howard did most of his riding in that way and his business was considerable. He had a boy ten or twelve years of age and full of mischief. The following incident was related of the lad by one of his playmates, who lived to be a gray-haired citizen of Rome: The boy was taken ill and a blister was placed on him; he slept in a trundle bed in the same room with his parents. After they were sound asleep, and he wide awake on account of the energetic blister, he quietly arose, removed the blister from his own person, and put it on his father. That blister, like a faithful team, was warranted to "draw," and it did so effectually that Mr. Howard did not find it comfortable to ride on horseback nor sit anywhere for several weeks afterwards. Solomon Perry resided in that house many years and until he moved into the Halleck house.

Next west of the vine-covered cottage was John Edy's blacksmith shop, where he and John Meyers labored together sixty years ago, and Mr. Edy lived in the house next west. That house and shop were there about 1820, but were burned about 1835, and another house and shop built on the site soon afterward; there Mr. Edy worked alone until his death.

Prior to 1830 the next house west was a small one standing where the double frame house now is, east of the brick block, on the south-east corner of Dominick and George streets. That small tenement was one of thirty-five similar structures which John Barnard had erected for Dominick Lynch in different parts of Rome, very early in the present century. The double house afterwards on that site, as well as the two between it and the brick block, were erected about 1830 by Isaac M. Pinckney, a merchant here ; Virgil Draper afterwards became the owner of the house.

Where M. M. Burlison resided, next west of the Edy house and east of the steam mill site, Dr. H. H. Pope went to keeping house in 1828. After him Isaac Draper lived there and about 1835 D. C. Bancroft resided there. In 1835 the steam mill building was erected by J. M. Orton, but steam power was not put in until 1845, when Michael Burns became the purchaser, put in steam, and made sash, doors and blinds. It was burned in 1856 and soon after rebuilt by Mr. Burns. A. H. Brainard & Son occupied it thirty-five years ago for grinding feed, and after them, John Hook.

Reaching the corner of George street, we find that in 1815 Chauncey Filer, a carpenter and joiner, erected on that site for Col. Arden Seymour a story and a half frame dwelling. Colonel Seymour came here in 1813 and in that year procured Mr. Filer to erect a pottery on the rear of the same lot near the canal ; there Colonel Seymour made earthen ware from common clay a number of years. Afterwards he removed his shop across the canal opposite where the furnace of S. Adams & Son now is, and there he manufactured stone jars from clay obtained in New Jersey, which was brought to Rome after the completion of the Erie Canal in 1835. Mudge & Doty purchased the land where the dwelling stood, removed the frame house and in 1850, or thereabouts, erected the brick block now there ; this was subsequently purchased by John West and afterwards owned by Dr. M. C. West.

Going west on Dominick street we find that on the southwest corner next beyond where Arden Seymour lived was another of the thirty-five small dwellings built by John Barnard for Dominick Lynch. A man named Rich lived there as early as 1816 and worked in Colonel Seymour's pottery. About 1820 Palmer Cleveland lived there and had a cooper shop in the rear. About 1830 John Healt, father of D. W. Healt, moved upon the place as owner and fitted up the building. Previous to that Mr. Healt lived in a brown house which stood in the rear of where Father Murphy resides, and kept his team in stables which then stood in the rear of the Baptist church, and said to be stables John Barnard erected in 1793 when he built and kept the first hotel in Rome in that locality. Mr. Healt and Holloway Brown were the only two persons then (1828) who worked out and did jobs with teams. Mr. Healt lived on that corner until his death.

The next house west was where David W. Healt lived in recent years, erected about 1820 by Andrew Perry, father-in-law of L. L. Lewis. Mr. Howard, a minister, resided there a while. He became insane, went west, and was taken to an asylum and died there. He was a brother of Mrs. Daniel Matteson.

On the next lot west was a small building occupied soon after 1820 by James McHarg, father of John B. McHarg. James McHarg worked in the arsenal, but about 1826 he started a gunsmith shop there in the front part and lived in the rear.

After passing three or four vacant lots, on which afterwards stood three white frame dwellings erected after 1840 by Seymour & Adams, there stood an old house with an end to the road, with a large chimney in the center of the building. That building was erected in 1814 by Col. Arden Seymour, for Henry Cadwell, father of Mrs. D. B. Shelley. Mr. Cadwell worked in the pottery for Colonel Seymour a number of years after that house was built. In 1828, and prior thereto, James Merrill, sr., resided there and until he went into the tanning business

near the Seymour House site. A constable named Orrin J. Fuller resided in that house a number of years, and the following bit of history connected with him will doubtless prove interesting: A man named Cavana living toward Westmoreland, was some thirty years ago confined in the Rome jail on account of his insanity; he seemed to talk rational and reasonable at times on most subjects, yet he was a dangerous man to be at large. While in Rome jail or yard he got away and went to his house, and news came that he was burning up his wife's clothing and committing other depredations. S. G. Stevens, Thomas Dugan and Constable Fuller went over to arrest Cavana and bring him back, but he, pitchfork in hand, threatened to kill the first man who came near enough to be reached; he made a lunge at Mr. Stevens and came near running the fork into him. The three returned for reinforcements, and a number armed themselves with pitchforks and went over a second time. They surrounded him, and when he found that he was thus hemmed in he gave up. Cavana was brought to Rome, and from here S. B. Stevens and Constable Fuller started with him for Hudson, below Albany, to put him into an asylum there, the State Asylum at Utica not being completed. While the three were crossing the State Street bridge over the canal basin at Albany, preparatory to taking boat down the river, Cavana made an attempt to escape; an excitement was created, a large crowd gathered on the bridge, the weak structure fell, and Fuller and Cavana and some twenty others were drowned. But to return to that building. Henry Wager, of Western, at one time owned the premises, and there Freeman Snow, millwright, lived many years and died about 1850.

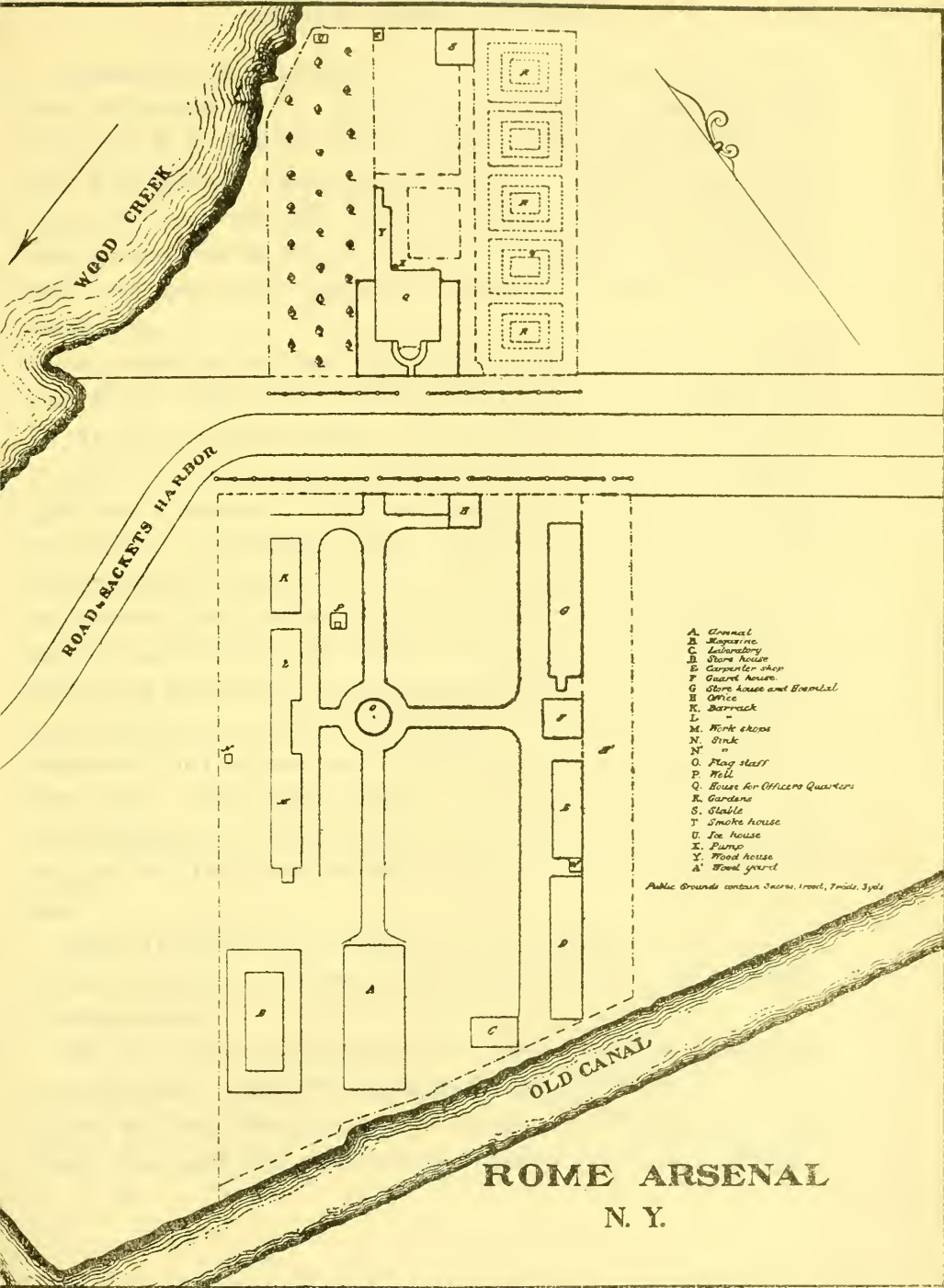
About 1820 Benjamin Wright and B. B. Hyde erected a small frame dwelling near where the corner of Dominick and Madison streets is (there was no sign of any Madison street there then) where Charles Leffingwell, father of N. H. Leffingwell, resided about 1828 and L. L. Lewis in 1832; nearly back of that, toward the canal, was an ashery

William E. Wright built in 1826, and which C. Hollister carried on a few years later. There was no other building sixty-five years ago until the Arsenal was reached.

About 1830 a Quaker named Wood erected, on the grounds in the rear of the three white houses before spoken of, a small furnace; all of his business was done by horse power, and he hired teams to do that and the blowing in the furnace. About 1835 Seymour & Adams purchased the premises, enlarged the building and the business, and carried on a successful business there; about 1850 they built the furnace on the south side of the canal.

It is a matter of history that the United States Arsenal (now Bath Tub Works), where it now stands, was erected in 1813; the old State Arsenal, built before 1810, stood where the old St. Peter's church now is. Dominick street at the Arsenal prior to 1825 did not run directly west as it now does, but instead thereof turned off to the southeast of the shops west of the Bath Tub Works and between the shop and a small house, crossed Wood Creek on a low, frail bridge, and then went west parallel with but a number of rods south of the present route. The house of Daniel Matteson and other old buildings there, were erected where the road then run.

When La Fayette visited Rome in 1825 he embarked from the canal packet at the White, or Jervis storehouse, which stood southwest of the arsenal. There he was met by a large Rome delegation, many young ladies with bouquets for the distinguished guest, military on foot and on horseback, etc., and was thence escorted by that route to the Arsenal and to the American Hotel. Col. B. P. Johnson was on horseback in regimentals, having command of the militia, and Col. Arden Seymour of the cavalry, was near by on horseback. When crossing Wood Creek Colonel Johnson's horse became restive and made a sudden plunge and leap forward, leaving the rider sitting as flat in the mud as a tailor ever sat on his bench. Colonel Seymour instantly dismounted and gallantly offered his own horse to Colonel Johnson, and the offer was accepted.



WOOD CREEK

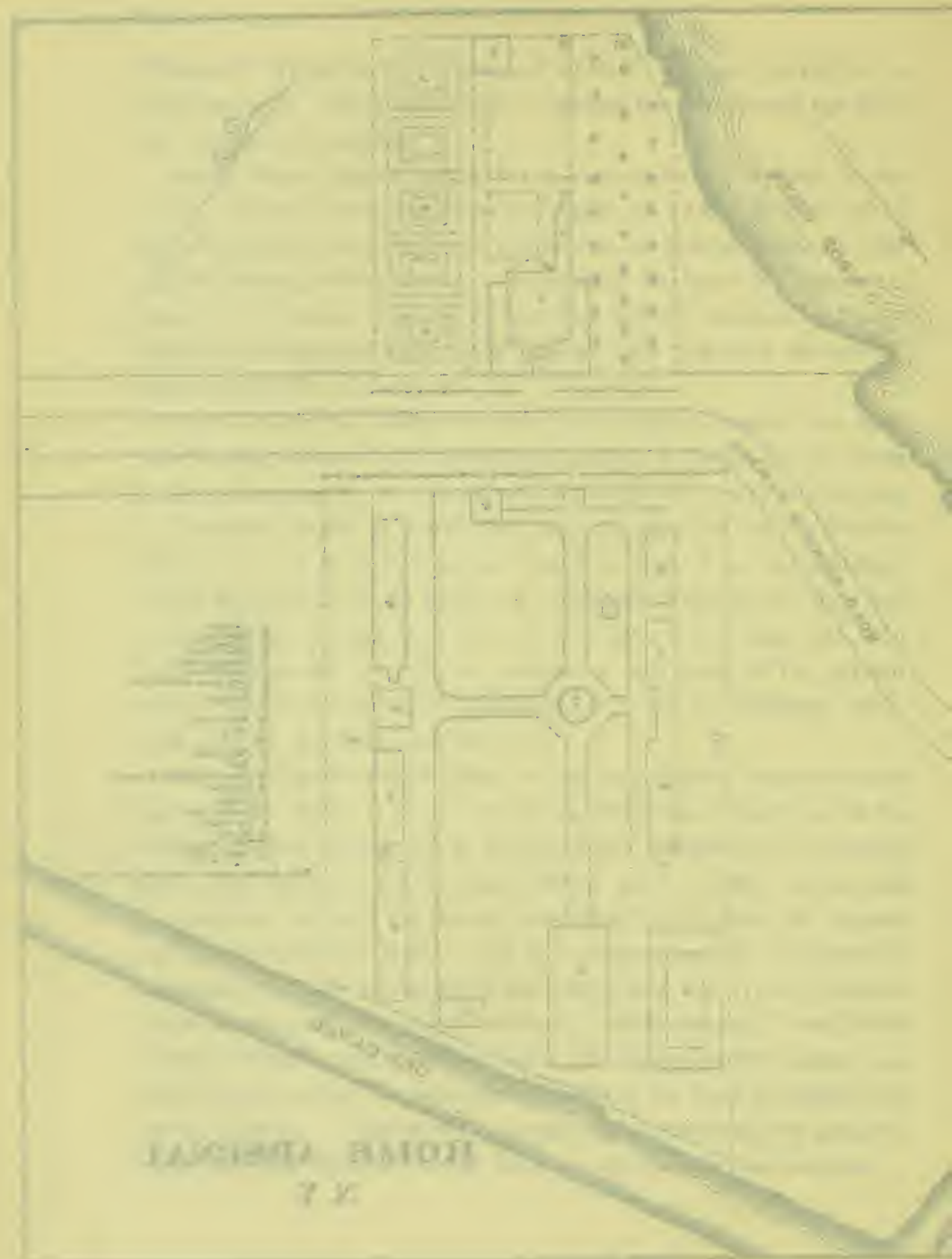
ROAD-SACKETS HARBOR

OLD CANAL

ROME ARSENAL
N. Y.

- A. Gravel
- B. Magazine
- C. Laboratory
- D. Store house
- E. Carpenter shop
- F. Gunner house
- G. Store house and Bunkers
- H. Office
- I. Barrack
- L. "
- M. Work shops
- N. Sink
- N' "
- O. Flag staff
- P. Mill
- Q. House for Officers Quarters
- R. Gardens
- S. Stable
- T. Smoke house
- U. Ice house
- X. Pump
- Y. Wood house
- A' Wood yard

Public Grounds contain Acres: 1 front, 7 inside, 3 side



FORUM AUGUSTI

17

Commencing at Washington street we will now go west on the north side of Dominick street. As early as 1810 there was standing on the site where R. W. Pritchard and N. Kling erected a brick block in 1871, now Roth building, a small dwelling, part of which was removed and long stood on Washington street just north of that brick building and was occupied twenty five years ago by Mr. Kling. Marcus W. Gilbert, who afterwards removed to Watertown, occupied that house about 1814.

An amusing incident was told by an old resident relative to this Gilbert house. There were a number of fine young ladies residing there in 1815 and a dancing master came to town in that year who took a "shine" to one or more of the girls. He went late one evening to give them a serenade. A serenade in those days was an entirely new experience to all Romans, except dancing masters, and the family did not understand the matter at all when the Frenchman's voice and violin disturbed the night air. A brother of the young ladies got out of his bed, went into the yard, drove the dancing master off, broke his fiddle into pieces, and gave him such a trimming as made him keep step quite lively to music of another sort. The brother was under the impression that the man was a burglar, or had come there to make a disturbance. The dancing master in describing the occurrence was very indignant at what he termed Tom Gilbert's boorishness, and declared that Tom knew nothing of fashionable life or how to salute a lady.

About 1820 Levi Green resided in that dwelling and it was long known by his name. Martin Rowley resided there in 1828 and many years afterward.

The next house was the Grosvenor place erected as early as 1810 by Philip Filer. Judge Wardwell lived there in 1816-17 and was succeeded by Judge Wiley. Oliver C. Grosvenor resided there a great many years and died there, and after his son, Oliver D. Grosvenor,

resided there many years. Jacob Stevens owned the property and resided there at the time of his death in 1871.

On the west end of the Grosvenor lot was a small wooden building used at first by Mr. Filer for his shop, and after that Judge Wiley resided there a while and after him John Eddy, who kept a store in 1823 on the site so long occupied by G. N. Bissell & Son, and now by J. G. Bissell. Lynden Abell, Mrs. D. E. Wager's father, resided there about 1831 and after him Henry G. Giles. The building was afterwards removed to the rear of the lot.

Next west of the Grosvenor place is the Purdon lot. On the west end of this an old double house, eaves to the street, stood as long ago as 1804 or thereabouts; it is not known who built it or lived there at that early date. Mrs. Bradley, sister of Luke Frink, resided there about 1817. About 1823, and perhaps earlier, it was occupied by G. W. Pope, and about 1828 by Capt. John Westcott, who went there to reside after he sold his residence on James street to Judge Roberts. After Mr. Westcott, Joseph B. Read, then Isaac Draper, Morris Chappell, S. R. Butterfield and others resided there. After James Purdon purchased the premises he built the house on the east end of the lot which is now occupied by Mrs. Henry Hager. Mr. Purdon was a carpenter and before his removal to town occupied the house on the Turin road where Nicholas Spring formerly lived; his daughters however occupied the old building and did dressmaking there. The first work done by Mr. Purdon after he located on that lot (about 1851) was the erection of the passenger depot of the Rome, Watertown and Cape Vincent Railroad just west of the Central depot. It was a small red frame structure and was afterwards used for a dwelling on John street a few rods from where it first stood.

East of where White's Hotel now stands there was a little old house standing seventy-five years ago, which was occupied in 1817 by John Lewis, father of L. L. Lewis, and soon after 1820 by John Shepard who

worked for Deacon Worthington. Afterwards John Edy and then John Myers lived there, and still later a man named Mahany. The wife of Mahany was intemperate and one evening when she was drunk a child rolled out of her lap upon the hot cook stove and was burned to death. The husband came home and was so angry that he gave his wife a severe mauling. A coroner's inquest was held in the office of Judge Roberts on the body of the child. Francis Bicknell was coroner and Moses G. Watson one of the jurors. The verdict was condemnatory of the woman and she was in jail some time, but was finally released without further punishment. To add to the misfortunes of the family, their boy was drowned soon afterward. A house on that site was erected by John B. Bradt about 1850, and gave way to part of White's Hotel and the New York store. On the next lot west at its west end and close to the old long house now there, a house stood before 1810, which was occupied about that time by a man named Elliott and afterward by Elijah Snell. Richard Dunning, sr., lived there for some time. In April, 1818, Judge Roberts began keeping house there, continuing until 1829, when he removed to the house on James street where he died. Mr. Davenport afterwards resided there and then A. B. Blair. The house was torn down many years ago and the house on the east end of the lot, where the Hook block stood, was built by Glen Petrie, deceased.

The next house west and close to Judge Roberts's house, was an old long house where Jay Hathaway resided twenty years prior to 1836. Peter Frear, G. W. Taft and others occupied it afterwards.

Where the house occupied some years ago by Mrs. Henry Hayden stands there stood seventy-five or eighty years ago a small red frame dwelling owned and occupied by Simon Matteson as early as 1820; after him and about 1828 Alanson Bennett lived there, having there begun keeping house. It was finally torn down and Wheeler Barnes erected on the site a large frame house, which was burned and rebuilt fifty years ago. J. B. Brainard lived there at one period.

The house that was removed by Dr. H. H. Pope to the west side of George street fifty or more years ago, formerly stood where Mrs. Henry Hager now lives. In that dwelling Horatio N. Carr, Mrs. Caleb Putnam, a Mr. Davenport and S. B. Stevens successively resided. Dr. Pope purchased the property and removed the dwelling, erecting the one now standing there. The new house was occupied at different periods by H. C. Vogell, Dr. Perkins, James Merrill, jr., and finally J. P. Hager and Henry Hager, who died there.

About 1820 there was a small building erected and used as a cooper shop by one Gorton on the northeast corner of Dominick and George streets, where Mrs. McPhee's house now stands. Joshua Kirkland owned it prior to 1820. About 1828 Don A. Lewis lived there, having had it fitted up as a dwelling. Tarsus Hungerford built the latter residence there about 1830.

The old part of Dr. H. H. Pope's house on the next corner west, where Mr. Pope has just died at the age of ninety, was built for a carpenter shop about 1816 by Moses Gilman, and was afterwards fitted up for a dwelling and Mr. Gilman lived in it, building another shop on the same lot and farther west. This was also made into a dwelling and Albert H. Pope resided there. About 1828 Rev. M. A. Perry, an Episcopal minister, resided on the Dr. Pope corner and had a school in the Albert Pope dwelling in the rear, which he successfully conducted a number of years.

The next house west, where William Parker resided twenty-five years ago, stood seventy or eighty years ago on the site now occupied by W. N. Rudd's store. It was the residence of Stephen White and in 1828 was purchased by Moses G. Watson and removed to its later location; he resided there a number of years and in 1834 sold it to Peter Servey, who also lived there.

On the grounds now occupied by the dwellings of Sanford Adams and Mrs. Eri Seymour there stood seventy-five years ago two small

houses, one occupied by William McClenahan for his residence and the other for a cooper shop. Later the shop was transformed into a dwelling in which a son of Mr. McClenahan lived about 1828. About 1835 Seymour & Adams purchased the premises, tore down or removed the houses and built the frame residences there now.

The two-story frame house with eaves to the street just west of the premises just described was Philip Perry's blacksmith shop in 1820, and was remodeled into a dwelling by Martin Galusha. About 1823 it was occupied by Rev. David Morris, who was the second Baptist minister in Rome. The house was afterwards built over.

Prior to 1830 there was no other building on that side of the street until the farm house of Dominick Lynch was reached. That house, with two or three barns around it, stood on the east part of the farm at that point. On Liberty street the farm extended down to Washington street and in 1830 a fence ran across that street from the Universalist church to what was then Francis Bicknell's residence. The Lynch farm was carried on in 1825 by one Massey, and about 1830 by Daniel Dickinson, father of Ed. Dickinson. Thomas Dugan resided there at one time. The house near by, which was occupied some years ago by C. M. Greene, was built by a Mr. Coates, who came from Trenton and worked for Seymour & Adams.

The small house standing until within a few years on the northwest corner of Jay and Dominick streets, was there seventy years ago, when it was occupied by Mr. Larkin, who worked in the arsenal. That was the last house on the street going west before reaching the arsenal. There was a small house occupied by 1826 by David Stillman, who also worked in the arsenal, which stood east of Jay street near the corner where Edward Evans lives. The house where Dr. Post resides was begun by Peter Warner in 1848, but was purchased and finished by Mr. Lewis in that year.

CHAPTER X.

CANAL VILLAGE IN EARLY YEARS.

No part of this city presents greater changes and improvements than the section south of the canal, which has been known far many years as Canal Village. Prior to 1820 there was not a solitary building of any kind between the railroad track and what became the site of the County Poor House, now the Custodial Asylum. All that intervening space was simply a swamp, so wet and miry that if a man slipped off from a log, which here and there stuck above the surface, he was quite sure to sink in to his knees and in some places to his hips. This swamp was also covered with timber and large thick underbrush, and as late as 1825 there were woods on the site of the Franklin House and also where the freight house was built. A road had been cut through this swamp and a crossway of logs laid down the whole distance, so that teams could pass over it in winter; but in spring, summer and fall, up to 1819, the crossway was impassable. In the winter of 1817, the Legislature granted a charter to Jeremiah B. Brainard and Isaac G. Green and their associates to construct a turnpike on that route. The road was built and on October 20, 1819, the first tolls were taken. J. Burr Brainard, who came here September 10, 1813 (the day of Perry's victory on Lake Erie), shoveled the first gravel upon this turnpike and took the first tolls. He was also a worker on the Erie Canal when it was commenced in 1817.

The turnpike having been finished and the old Erie Canal opened from Utica to Montezuma in 1820, so that tolls were being taken on both, Mr. Brainard built in 1820 a tavern called the Mansion House at the old canal. As it was difficult, if not impossible, to purchase

land of the then owner, the Mansion House was built on the south side of and close to the canal, and across the turnpike, on land belonging to the Turnpike Company. That was the first building erected south of where the railroad now is and was kept as a hotel at the toll gate. The names of the persons who at different times kept the hotel were James Thompson, Benjamin I. Starr (both of whom also kept the American in later years), J. B. Brainard, Charles Mosely, and M. D. Hollister.

The next building erected, and in the same year, was by the State, and was on the west side of the turnpike and extended over the canal. As the Dutchman said of the pig he was trying to drive out of the lot where there was a stream of water, "She vas on both sides of the vater at the same time." Here the canal tolls were taken, and underneath and across the canal a gate or chain was stretched to intercept boats until the tolls were paid. B. B. Hyde was the first collector, and Thomas J. Hyde, clerk. Col. John Westcott, of Rome paid the first canal toll upon a raft of timber. The building under consideration was painted yellow and was built on piles sunk in the marshy ground. A year or two afterward the building was purchased by B. B. Hyde, placed wholly on the north side of the canal, additions made to it and converted into and used by him and N. H. Leffingwell for a warehouse; it was the first one in Rome. It was then painted red and subsequently became the brewery of John O'Neil; later it burned.

The next house built there was the Canal Coffee House, in 1824, by Daniel Whedon, father of Alva; it stood on the north side of the canal and east of the turnpike. It was a two story tavern and was kept at different times by Alva and Hiram Whedon, Norman Butler, Samuel Henderson, A. J. Roe, and Marvel & Sons. It was burned years ago after the canal was moved to its present channel. The next building erected was in 1826; it was a small cheap grocery, built by John O'Neil, just west of the Mansion House.

The first private dwelling built in that section was by Hiram Whedon in 1826, and is there now on the corner of the turnpike and Wright street. Alva and Hiram Whedon resided there a number of years. They also erected in the same year a cooper shop a little farther north of the dwelling. It was used in 1835-38 as the first place of worship of those who afterwards formed the St. Peter's church. Father Beecham took charge of the congregation in 1836 beginning his long and useful career in Rome. The building was later changed to a dwelling. The next house was built about the same time by William Rich. In 1825 E. Shepard, a watchmaker, built a small dwelling a little farther north on the same side of the turnpike, where Peter Goodier afterwards resided. About 1826 James Farquharson erected a dwelling west of the turnpike and on the corner of Wright street and went into the butchering business. Within a year or two he erected three more houses near by. These stood there many years.

The next year William White erected a dwelling and blacksmith shop adjoining or near Farquharson's building. The White dwelling became the kitchen part of Barbara Reh's house. In 1823 Elisha Walsworth, sr., erected for Samuel Henderson a bakeshop near where the public school house now is, which was occupied in 1871 by Joseph Williams. Alva Whedon went there to keep house first in 1829 after his marriage and resided there until 1837, having built an addition. In 1826 J. D. Gage erected a dwelling north of the canal and east of the Canal Coffee House on the tow path of the old canal.

In 1826 Holloway Brown erected the upright part of the building known as the Leffingwell place, near the railroad. B. B. Hyde purchased those premises and built the addition to the house and resided there some years. After him H. N. Leffingwell owned the premises and lived there. The property was later owned by St. Joseph's church.

In 1828 the building so long occupied by L. Hower & Son, corner of James and Harrison streets, was erected by A. Parmalee, a boot and



EDWARD HUNTINGTON.

shoe dealer who had his shop where Casey Brothers now are. B. B. Hyde resided there a while before going into the Holloway Brown house. Giles Hawley first began keeping house there in 1833. M. L. Brainard resided there a number of years.

About 1827 Orrin Powers erected a red storehouse south of the canal and east of the turnpike nearly opposite the Canal Coffee House. It afterwards passed to Judge Roberts and was known as Roberts's storehouse. Samuel Henderson was in it for a time and afterwards (1832) Levi and Jotham Scovil traded there. R. Dunning was in business at the old canal and L. Abell kept a bakery there some sixty years ago. We have now enumerated all the buildings that stood below the railroad prior to 1830.

Canal Village had a slow growth during the first ten years of its existence, as the foregoing history shows. Not far from that year German emigrants began to arrive in Rome but most of them went north to Constableville, Leyden, Turin and elsewhere. They began soon after that year to remain in Rome; some went to Coonradt Settlement and some settled in Canal Village. A change in the canal in 1844 to its present route resulted in coaxing away about all the Yankees in that section. The German immigrants increased, and as land was cheaper there, they settled in that locality, and the principal growth was within the next twenty-five years thereafter. The Central railroad was completed through here on July 4, 1839. The Railroad House, now the Ontario and W. R. R. Depot, was built the same year by H. A. Foster, Edward Smith doing the carpenter work. It was built on piles, the surface of the earth all around that locality being some ten or fifteen feet lower than it now is.

In a little house which stood fifty or sixty years ago in a corner near the railroad, west and back of the Railroad Hotel barn, Barney Hoy, father of Tom Hoy, lived and died. As that family was one of the well known institutions of Rome, it should not be neglected here. The wife

of Barney died in the county poor house, she being insane, and there Tom and his sister, the latter also insane, afterward lived. Barney Hoy and Tockle Hempstreet were both great wood sawyers in their day and introduced into Rome the modern saw horse. Hempstreet reformed and became a sober man before he died.

The locality between the railroad and canal must now be considered. Frequent mention has been made of John Barnard, one of Rome's early settlers and as one of the enterprising business men of this place and erected more buildings in his day than any other dozen men. He was about the only man who had the ear of Dominick Lynch, the landed proprietor, and who could obtain lands on which to erect buildings. In looking through the records in the county clerk's office in Utica we find that Mr. Barnard, becoming involved in pecuniary matters, in August, 1799, assigned to Caleb Putman, a tanner, all his property for the benefit of his creditors. The deed of assignment was drawn by T. R. Gold, a noted lawyer of Whitesboro, and among other real estate, conveyed all the lands that Mr. Barnard owned south of the present Erie Canal. The real estate was mentioned as being seventy-two acres of "pepper corn lots," and also embraced the land now covered by the Bingham, formerly Armstrong block, and so down south, as to include the site of the Railroad House, and depot buildings. The house occupied by Mr. Putnam was nearly opposite the site of the office of E. B. Armstrong, a little way east from James street, and not many feet from the then canal of the Western Inland Lock Navigation Company. The tannery building was in the rear of the dwelling, but nearer the canal. The barn was in the rear of the later blacksmith shop of Joseph Higgins and his son. The remainder of the land in the triangle formed by the canal, James street and the railroad, was occupied by vats and bark mill (and in 1820 by a slaughter house) and covered by tan bark. The grounds thereabouts and below the railroad was marshy and tan bark was spread thereon down to near the Franklin House, where the woods

commenced, to better enable a person to keep on the surface. Who erected the foregoing buildings is not known, but probably Mr. Putnam had some share in it, as he was an enterprising and wealthy business man. This was the first tannery erected in this part of the country and was a costly one. Mr. Putnam also owned the Catterfield House, before described, and what was known as the Butler farm north of Rome on the road to West Branch, beside other property. In 1819, while looking through the woods to the south, he fell upon a log and a knot penetrated his abdomen, inflicting an injury from which he died. On his death his property went to his children and Horatio N. Carr, his son in-law carried on the tannery a while, but the building gradually went to decay and the business did not flourish. An execution was issued against Carr not far from 1837, and the grounds in the triangle and where the Armstrong and Beecham blocks and the Railroad Hotel were built (he having purchased of the other heirs) were sold on the execution and bid in by Judge Foster. About 1837 Rufus Tiffany lived in the Putnam house, and used the barn and other out buildings for a livery and to keep his horses in, he at that time running a stage from Rome to Trnin. When the Erie Canal was changed to its present location in 1844, the Putnam house and tannery were torn down to make room for the enlarged canal, and the other buildings had in the mean time been removed or gone to ruin.

In 1843 B. B. Hyde and N. H. Leffingwell erected the red storehouse which stood on the east part of the Putnam property on the bank of the canal; that storehouse was sold to James Merrill, jr., and then to N. B. Foot, John Stryker and B. G. Bloss. It was burned in 1853 and on a portion of the site the later brick block of N. B. Foot was erected by Mr. Foot and H. E. Shaffer about 1855.

In 1842 Parker & Mudge erected the white storehouse which stood west of the red storehouse and extended to James street. In the part next to the street W. O. McClure opened in a small room and in a
L. of C.

small way a bookstore forty-five or more years ago, but he enlarged his business so as to require his removal to more commodious quarters Parker & Mudge sold the white storehouse to Edgerton & Gage and that firm sold to the Rome & New York Line about 1853. In the course of two years thereafter the building was consumed by fire, burning to death a man named Miller, who lodged there Miller was an eccentric person who had got out, but returned to secure a bag of hoarded gold and lost his life. The Rome and New York Line built the storehouse building now occupied by H. L. Rose, southeast corner of James street and the canal, and which covers part of the site of the white storehouse. The store occupied by R. M. Bingham for many years on the northeast corner of James street, was erected by N. B. Foot and H. L. Rose about 1869.

On the opposite side of the street from the tannery property there stood close by the canal and near James street, a building with a basement; it faced the canal, appearing to have been built for a tavern. It was rickety and out of use seventy-five years ago. Close by this tavern, but a little to the west and on a knoll stood a small meat shop occupied in 1820 by Mr. Andrus and afterwards by Walter Colburn. It was removed and in its place was erected a small frame dwelling occupied by Ormond Butler, Walter Colburn and Martin Rowley, where the latter died about 1841. This house stood back of or near the rear part of E. B. Armstrong's office. It was in 1842 removed to the north side of Liberty street across the street from N. P. Rudd's house.

It is important to bear in mind that Front street, now running west toward the lumber and coal yards, was not there fifty years ago; instead a lane or alley ran out from James street about where the express office stood in 1870 (the store of L. Hower, jr., now), in the middle of the Armstrong block, and so off toward Washington street. On the south side of that lane and on the corner of James street a barn stood about 1830-40, which was used by Bill Smith and Amos Flint in con-

nection with their hotel on the Hill or Saulpaugh block corner. Going west on that alley was a dwelling house owned by Mrs. Hoag, erected and occupied by her about 1828; afterward about 1835 by Peter White. A few feet farther west was another dwelling erected about the same time by Elisha Walsworth, father of the second Elisha, and where Mr. White died; that house was occupied in 1835 by Giles Hawley. Still farther was the pottery operated as early as 1813 and near which was a pottery house for the potter to reside in. About where T. W. Edwards's coal yard is, G. & H. Huntington had an ashery as early as 1804 and which was afterwards carried on by Levi Green. Going on toward Washington street and next beyond the ashery thus described was a shop for the manufacture of hats erected about 1822 by Elijah Worthington. It was across the canal from and in the rear of his then residence and place of business on Dominick street. About 1840 a lively barn stood on the north side of the alley opposite the residence of Giles Hawley, carried on by M. D. Hollister, the first one he started in Rome. The enlargement of the canal crowded that alley farther south and made Front street, and caused the removal of all of the above described buildings which stood in the way.

The Armstrong block on the east side of James street near Canal, now Bingham block, was built in 1842 by Jesse and E. B. Armstrong, and there the Rome Sentinel was published from 1845 to 1852. Not far from 1837 Allen Perry had a blacksmith shop on the site afterward occupied by the Beecham block, on southwest corner of South James and Front streets.

The dining saloon of A. W. Churchill was erected by A. K. Adams and Jacob Stevens about 1851.

CHAPTER XI.

JAMES STREET NORTH OF THE CANAL.

Taking up James street north of the canal, it is to be recorded that not far from 1800 John Barnard built a tavern on the site of the Saulpaugh Armstrong block and the two stores south towards the Erie Canal. It was fifty feet on James street and extended back forty feet. It was an old fashioned two story building, besides basement, with a piazza and flight of steps in front. Next towards the canal and adjoining this tavern were sheds and a narrow driveway to the barns in the rear. Still farther towards the canal and directly on the corner of James and Whitesboro streets, where the south part of Stanwix Hall now stands, was a small red frame building occupied as early as 1812 by Nathaniel Mudge, sr., as a grocery. The tavern was kept in 1812 by Benjamin Hyde, sr., father of Benjamin and B. B. Hyde. After him Enos Gilbert was landlord and in 1815 he sold out to Elisha Walsworth. Elisha Walsworth, sr., kept the hotel until 1825, when Thomas Ford became the purchaser, repaired the building and put in a brick front. He kept it until about 1833 when his son, John A. Ford, became proprietor and named the House Stanwix Hall, by which name it has ever since been known. Giles Hawley kept the hotel from 1840 to 1842, when John A. Ford again went in as landlord.

In the mean time in 1838 Mr. Hawley had purchased the Mudge premises on the corner and sold them to John A. Ford, and the latter in 1843-4 erected on these premises the brick hotel which brought it close up to where C. E. Saulpaugh formerly kept store, in Saulpaugh-Armstrong block; this store is on the south part of the ground occupied by the Walsworth tavern. After the brick block was erected it be-

came the hotel and was used as such and first kept by E. Jenks, of Troy. The old part was left standing a year or two and was used principally for a stage office by M. L. Kenyon and Giles Hawley. About 1845 Mr. Kenyon purchased the whole property, raised the roof of the brick part of the hotel, tore down the Walsworth tavern and in its place erected the brick block which runs to the store house kept by John Hook, which stands on the ground originally belonging to Bill Smith, Amos Flint, or Putnam Hotel property on the Hill block (now Saulpaugh block) corner. M. D. Hollister kept the Stanwix Hall in 1847-8, E. R. Robinson in 1849, Harger & De Ryther in 1850. They were succeeded by J. L. Watkins, he by N. M. Clark, he by A. W. Churchill, he by George Wood, he in turn by H. Nellis, and the latter by W. B. Sink. A. J. Sink purchased the whole property of M. L. Kenyon about 1861.

The grocery store of N. Mudge, above mentioned, which was occupied by the family some twenty years, was moved to the Lampman place near the old burying ground, and about 1831 Nathaniel Mudge erected on the site a two story and larger building, covering the entire width of the lot on James street. L. E. Elmer occupied that building as a grocery for two years after its completion. This lot extended back seventy-five feet on Whitesboro street and on the rear end was Judge Dill's dwelling house, which was owned and occupied by N. Mudge, sr., at the time of his death seventy-five years ago. The dwelling was subsequently removed to the old canal.

Prior to 1835 and probably later, the grounds now occupied by the Bissell block, (formerly Saulpaugh Armstrong block) were vacant. The sheds used by the Putnam Hotel stood about where the buildings occupied by the Fort Stanwix Bank and J. H. Searles now are. Subsequently a large barn for that hotel was erected, which just filled the vacant space between these sheds and the Walsworth tavern. The bank buildings were erected about 1852 and the Bissell block by John Bissell not long afterward.

Crossing over to the Merrill block, (now occupied by the express office and by the Rome Citizen), which was occupied about 1820 by Levi Green's store, as before noted, we find that on the site was a store or grocery as early as 1804, kept by a Mr. Devereux, and it was called the Devereux place for some years after. Later Mr. Elliot had a store there and Levi Green succeeded him. Flusky & Scott kept a hat store there about 1830. E. Shepard, had a jewelry store, or stock, there about 1828 and one night he was robbed. A family then residing in town was suspected and several of the brothers, the father and one or two others, six in all, were indicted and tried for burglary and larceny. All but two were acquitted; these two, a brother and an Irishman were sent to State prison.

Next beyond the Levi Green store was a small building, which was occupied about 1820 and earlier by Newman Barker for a saddler shop, and later by James Merrill, sr., in the same business. It was removed and long stood on the north side of Liberty street just east of James.

Next north of this saddler shop was a small building occupied as early as 1814 by Judge Wardwell as a law office and later by B. P. Johnson and then by Foster & Hayden for the same purpose. In this building the Rome Republic was published from 1828 to about 1830.

Next came the Huntington school house, erected not far from 1800. It was a story and a half frame building, chimney in the center, and the writing desks against the wall. This was used for a private school many years both before and after O. C. Grosvenor had his school there. Mr. Grosvenor was there from about 1818 to about 1832, when he removed to Liberty street. Prof O. P. Hubbard, now residing in New York city, eighty-seven years of age, attended school in the Huntington school house in 1814-1815.

Passing by the school house there came next a high garden fence close to the sidewalk. Against this fence and open and accessible to

the public and passers-by hung the hooks and ladders which constituted the entire fire apparatus of Rome seventy-five years ago, excepting the leather buckets which each family was required to keep. There was an old-fashioned crank engine of about as much use as a squirt gun. The fact of that being the entire fire apparatus, and the additional fact that it was left exposed in that public place, will provoke a smile from those not accustomed to such things. In these times the apparatus would not remain twenty-four hours in such a place before being carried off by some enterprising and ambitious persons and either smashed to pieces or elevated in a tree top, or thrown into the canal. The first fire company in Rome was incorporated by special act of the Legislature, passed in 1818, making Joel Hayes and his associates, not exceeding twenty in number, such company. The company was a sort of "close corporation," having perpetual succession, electing its own members and officers, subject to no superior authority, and exempt from jury duty. It had other privileges and exemptions, which made it a very desirable organization to belong to, but not very efficient. This was "No. 1." In 1826 another company was organized and called No. 2, and which was joined by Alanson Bennett, Alva Whedon, B. P. Johnson, Joseph B. Read, Aylmer Keith, and a large number of others. An engine costing \$1,000 was purchased for this company and used for many years; it was burned about 1850.

On the corner where the livery of Martin Thalman (formerly H. Nellis) now is was the barn of George Huntington prior to 1820 and up to about 1845. M. D. Hollister purchased that corner and converted it into a livery establishment, and it was used for that purpose many years.

Here is the proper place to record that the first block north of the Merrill block was erected by Cyrus Hayden, the next one by Henry Veazie, the next by John West, the next by G. W. Delano, and the next by E. W. Curtis, all after 1850.

In 1804 very near where where the present butcher shop of John Fisher is, on the corner of the alley next north of the livery, there was a meat shop then kept by David I. Andrews, who erected the Madison barracks for the United States government at Sackett's Harbor, which were used for the first time in the war of 1812. Mr. Andrews at the time he kept the meat shop occupied a small house which stood where the Judge Roberts house was located. At a later period there were two dwelling houses between the meat shop and Mr. Andrews's then dwelling, the next one to the house of Mr. Andrews being occupied at one time by Charles Mines, who was subject to fits of insanity. One cold morning in the dead of winter as some one was passing by the grounds of Old Fort Stanwix, on which was a well, they heard a loud cry from the well. On going there Mines was found in the well almost frozen. About 1829 Robert Walker occupied that house. About 1825 Amaziah Manwaring lived in the other of the two dwellings and had a shoe shop near the corner a little back on alley. S. B. Stevens afterwards resided there. When Judge Roberts moved to the place where he died he purchased the grounds where these two houses stood and moved them off. About 1833 and later J. B. Bradt had a blacksmith shop where the butcher shop is, in a building which he moved from near the site of Ethridge's store and which was afterwards removed to James street north of Embargo, as heretofore mentioned. About 1812 Oliver Greenwood resided in the house where Mr. Andrews formerly lived and had a blacksmith shop near where Dr. Sutton's office was in 1871 (now the residence of M. Thalman). About 1815 Col. John Westcott succeeded Mr. Greenwood in the house, and built the front part of what became the Judge Roberts house. About 1820 Colonel Westcott was quite a prominent man in Rome. He was colonel of the Rome regiment which went to Sackett's Harbor in the war of 1812, was afterwards deputy sheriff of the county and jailer at Rome; and he had the honor of paying the first toll on the Erie

Canal on a raft of timber in 1820. He died in August, 1832, at the age of seventy-one years. About 1828 Judge Roberts purchased the premises in question and resided there until his death in 1870, a period of forty-two years. About 1813-14 a Mr. Driggs carried on blacksmithing where Mr. Greenwood had been. The house on the corner where E. H. Walsworth now lives was erected by the late William Wright when he was young. He resided there a number of years and after him it was occupied by Dr. N. H. Deering, Dr. Perkins, J. S. Hovey, and lastly by Mr. Walsworth and his father.

The house on the northeast corner of James and Liberty streets owned by Dr. Scudder, was erected by Amos Flint about 1810-12. About 1820 Bill Smith resided there and died there August 4, 1834, and after him to about 1840 his son John P. After that Flint again lived there and after him John A. Ford, Eli Gage, and O. Wheeler.

The next house was a small yellow building occupied as early as 1810 by Ashbel Anderson, who resided there until after 1820. A school was kept in the rear part by his daughter and others. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson died not many years apart, both being paralyzed. About 1826 Martin Galusha resided there and after him Gen. Jesse Armstrong. About 1835 William Mormon removed the front part to the east side of George street, corner of Stone alley, where it remained many years, and erected in its place the present main part. He resided there a while and after him Jackson Tibbits, and then Norman Judd and then Dr. Scudder.

On the site where W. H. Pell is was seventy-five years ago a very small house occupied by Lansing Wall, a tailor. After that Dr. Hubbard lived there and about 1828 was succeeded by M. G. Watson and still later by E. M. Evans. It was moved back to make the rear part of the later building erected by Albert Soper.

On the southeast corner of James and Park streets Philander Soper resided more than seventy-five years ago; it is not known who built

this house. Mr. Soper was brother-in-law and partner of Pliny Darrow, both of whom were carpenters and did a large amount of business in that line and especially in later years of their lives, in large contract work. Darrow & Soper had their shop in the rear of Mr. Soper's house.

The rear part of the next house, on the alley, was the law office Wheeler Barnes, which was taken from the premises of A. Mudge when Mr. Barnes owned that property. The house on the corner of the alley and East Park, where the late William Townsend resided, was erected about 1810 by Russell Bartlett, a cabinetmaker. At first he had his shop in front and residence in the rear. He afterwards erected and occupied a shop on or near the site of Dr. Sutton's house; this was burned in 1828 and he then built another shop where Dr. G. W. Pope's brick residence was erected, now the site of the City Hall. The house in which Mr. Bartlett lived was afterwards occupied by Martin Rowley, E. W. Wight, who began housekeeping there in 1834, Jesse Walsworth, Warren Raymond, J. I. Carley, and Solomon Goodwin. The house where Mr. Brainerd resided (now Dr. H. C. Sutton's) was occupied as early as 1811 by B. B. Hyde, and after that for many years by Pliny Darrow; still later by A. B. Blair and C. F. Williams. The fire which burned Mr. Bartlett's shop was the work of an incendiary and badly scorched the north side of Mr. Darrow's house. The object of the incendiary, it is supposed, was to rob Mr. Darrow, as it was known that he had returned from Utica the previous day with a considerable sum of money with which to pay off the men employed by Darrow & Soper. The money was in a chest under Mr. Darrow's bed and when he was aroused by the fire he found his front door open and a man in the hall. When discovered the man made a hasty retreat and Mr. Darrow at once carried the money to his partner's house. Mr. Darrow was an enterprising and worthy man and died at the residence of his son-in-law, C. H. Norton, deaf and blind; it is

a somewhat singular fact that his son also became deaf and blind in the late years of his life.

The Dr. R. E. Sutton house was erected about 1835 by Philander Mudge, and was afterwards owned and occupied by E. B. Armstrong, and later by Merritt Brooks.

The old court house was erected on the site of the present one about 1806, and the bricks in its construction were taken from the locks of the Inland Canal. When the court house and jail were burned, as described in an early chapter of this work, the bricks were taken to build a house on the northeast corner of George and Court streets, afterwards occupied by F. H. Thomas. Oneida county was organized in March, 1798, and the courts of the county were held at this place until 1802, when they were held alternately here and at Whitestown. The records of the county show that the first term of the Oneida Common Pleas was held in May, 1798, at "the school house near Fort Stanwix." The first court of Oyer and Terminer was held at the same place in June of the same year, James Kent, judge of the Supreme Court, presiding. In September thereafter the first Circuit Court in the county was held by John Lansing, jr., chief justice, "at the school house near Fort Stanwix." That school house was situated on the southwest corner of the West Park, as before stated. Courts were held in this school house until the completion of the first court house. The first jail was erected at the same time as the court house and was made of blocks of wood hewn into shape so as to fit and dove-tailed into each other, making the whole structure firm and substantial. It was considered very secure for the criminals of those days. The debtor's room was made of plank. About 1817, and while Colonel Westcott was jailor, an attempt was made by the prisoners to escape by setting fire to the jail. They did not succeed, although a number of them came near suffocating. When the smoke and flames were well under headway they gave the alarm, but it was so long before the doors were opened

that they came near dying. They all crowded to the door, where a little fresh air came in, and there they struggled and fought with each other, and one of them was either killed or died from suffocation. When the doors were finally opened the men were so far exhausted that it was difficult to revive them. They were laid out in the open air like so many dead bodies and as they revived their contortions were frightful. Five of the prisoners who set the fire were indicted and tried for arson, and all were convicted and sentenced to be hung. The gallows was erected and the coffins made. The day set for the execution was in mid winter and men, women and children came in sleighs from Boonville and other directions, most of the way through the woods, starting the night before and riding all night in order to be present at the spectacle and witness five men being choked to death. There was a great crowd, but a few hours before the execution was to have taken place a reprieve came from the governor commuting the sentence to imprisonment for life. The coffins were afterwards used to bury paupers. Being thus deprived of the hanging scene, a number of the spectators clubbed together and erected a gallows in what was woods then, near the Leffingwell place, about where the railroad track is, and there hung the five prisoners in effigy. Isaac Sexton, one of the attendants, froze his feet standing in the snow at the gallows. The jail preceding the present one was erected about 1849-50 in place of the one burned. It is narrated that Bill Seeber was in jail when it took fire and that he worked like a beaver to extinguish the flames. When afterwards ridiculed for trying to save what had so many times been his prison, he asked with a good deal of indignation if any man would not work to put out a fire in his own house. Bill understood human nature.

On the west side of James street, as before noted, the only building prior to 1838 from the Erie Canal to Dominick street was the store and counting house of George and Henry Huntington; it was situated in

the first store north of the Dyett block. Mudge & Doty purchased that strip from Dominick street to the canal and in 1839 erected the Washington Saloon block, and about 1840 built the next one to the south, which they sold to Hager & Agne. About 1842 they built a block on the site of the Dyett Block (first building north of the canal), and in that building the Rome Sentinel was published from 1842 to 1845, by B. Waldby, when H. T. Utley and S. W. Morton purchased the establishment and in the latter year removed it to the Armstrong block. The Rome Citizen was published there from about 1850 to 1855. In November of that year the building then occupied by Foot & White was burned and the Citizen was consequently homeless. Immediately afterwards it was removed to its present location. The block was rebuilt the next year by B. S. Doty, who had become owner of the site. Passing by the Mudge or Kingsley block corner and the American, which have been described, we note that from where Miner's bookstore (now Brodock's store) was to the alley going towards Elm Row, the land was occupied by two or three structures. The first one north of the hotel sheds was a small building occupied as a saloon or grocery as early as 1816 by one Burke, after whom a barber named Griswold was there. William Sexton kept some kind of a grocery there and Asa W. Graves kept a saddler shop in that or one of the buildings near there. The Rome Republican was started and published there about 1825 by Laurien Dewy, and was removed across the street, as before stated. That building was removed to the left hand side of the Floyd road, nearly opposite the Catholic church and was many years occupied as a residence by Peter Shillenberg, a well known butcher. Not far from the corner E. Shepherd erected a two story house about 1828, used the lower part for a jewelry store and the upper part for his residence. It was occupied by different persons after that until burned in the fire of 1846. Charles Brown erected a grocery store on the corner of the alley about 1826-28. D. Siebald occupied

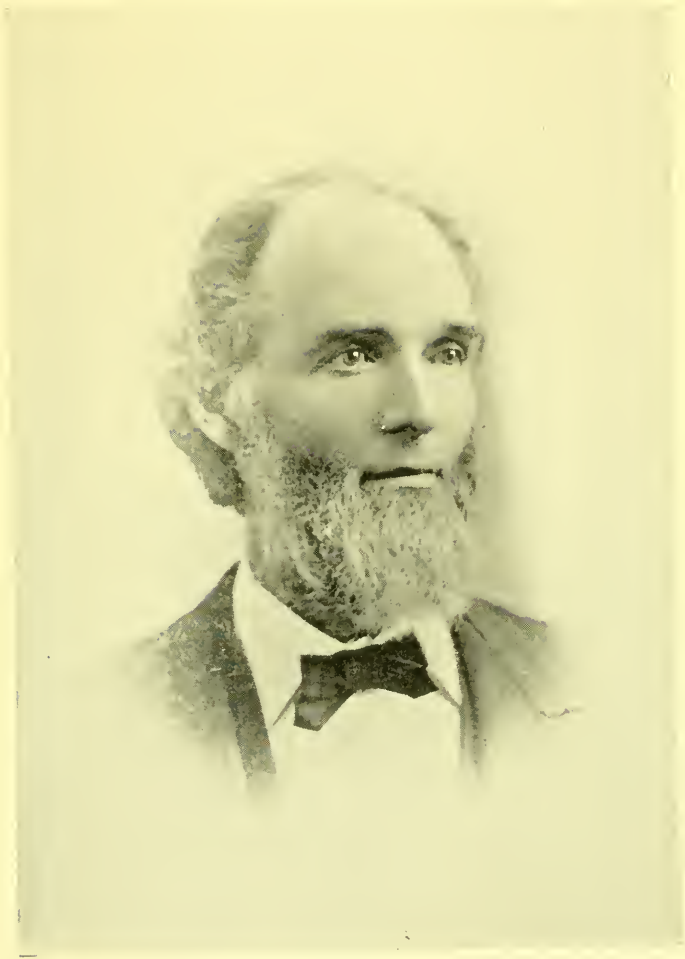
it after that and at the time of the fire. This part of the American block was erected about 1850.

The next block beyond (Elm Row) was once the property of Joshua Hathaway. His house stood opposite that of Judge Roberts and must have been erected very early in the present century, and probably by him. It was afterwards owned and occupied by Jay Hathaway and about 1850 was removed to the west side of George street near Embargo, where it now stands, No. 313. It is occupied by the son-in-law and daughter of Jay Hathaway, James S. Dyett.

A little to the north of the house just described and a few feet therefrom towards the street, stood the small building occupied by Judge Hathaway as a law office, surrogate's office and post-office. The post-office was kept there while the judge was postmaster. When Jay Hathaway succeeded his father in the office of postmaster about 1836 the office was soon after removed to the Stephen White hotel; from there it was removed to the southwest corner of James and Dominick streets, thence to the Arcade and in 1852 to the Elm Row. The building used by Joseph Hathaway as his office was afterward removed to the southeast corner of his lot next to the alley, and was occupied by A. W. Cole at the time of the fire in 1846, when it was torn down to prevent the flames from reaching the house of Jay Hathaway.

The Elm Row block was erected by Miss Marsh and Mrs. David Utley about 1850, and was burned on the date above given; the present buildings there were erected as follows: Thompson House (now Commercial Hotel) by H. Thompson and M. W. Rowe; the next block by Henry Hayden; the next by Dr. Kingsley; the next by O. Knowlton; the next by Charles Tuttle; and the next by Miss Marsh and Mrs. Utley.

The site where the brick residence of the late E. B. Armstrong now stands (St. James Hotel) was occupied seventy-five years ago by Sylvester Wilcox as a tin shop. All about there and on Liberty street



W. J. P. KINGSLEY, M. D.

fifty years ago, wood in sled length lay beside the road to be chopped up as it was wanted, the same as in the dooryard of a backwoods farmer. Between that and the brick residence of Dr. Pope (now a portion of the site of City Hall) was a ravine or gully through which water flowed, making it marshy thereabouts. About 1840 Simon Matteson erected the brick house on the corner, and where the house of Dr. G. W. Pope stood, was, as early as 1820, a small house occupied by the father of A. W. Graves. Judge Hayden afterwards resided there and about 1829-30 R. Bartlett erected a cabinet shop there which was occupied afterwards by J. M. Orton. When Mr. Pope became the owner about 1832 the shop was removed to the site of the Willett House, as before mentioned, and Dr. Pope then erected the brick building last mentioned.

The next house north was erected about 1807 by Mr. Filer for Festus Clark, who resided there a while, but removed to Sackett's Harbor during the war of 1812 and died there. Numa Leonard resided there about 1818 and after him the house was occupied by Daniel Bates. Mr. Jackson kept a school there. W. E. Wright resided there and the next occupant of the house was Ralph Hurlburt, who was succeeded by O. B. Pierce.

On the southwest corner of West Park stood the first public school building where the first courts of this county were held. It was used for educational purposes until 1819, when a frame school house was built on the site now occupied by Zion church, and the old building was removed to the site now occupied by the residence of Dr. R. E. Sutton and there converted into a storehouse for lumber, and used by Russell Bartlett. It was not burned at the time Mr. Bartlett's shop was destroyed in 1829, but was later made into a barn. The school house site and the Festus Clark site are now a part of the City Hall property.

Liberty street was laid down on the maps made by the land proprietors hereabouts as early as 1800, but it was not opened until some

years afterwards, and with the exception of that portion between James and Washington streets there was only one dwelling on the whole street prior to 1835. That dwelling was erected by Thomas Veazie, father of the late Henry Veazie, about 1820, and was on the site now occupied by the residence of Mrs. J. J. Armstrong, just west of and next to the engine house. Mr. Veazie had a wagon shop on the west end of his lot. Nathan Lawton succeeded Mr. Veazie in the house and shop and he was succeeded by Isaac Knox. After that for many years, Allen Briggs resided in the house and improved and enlarged it. The house was removed to the rear of the lot to make room for the present residence there, which Mr. Armstrong erected.

In the place of the wagon shop Cyrus Hayden erected the present dwelling occupied at different times by him, then by A. Sandford, N. H. Leffingwell, and Mrs. Humaston. In front of these premises were the old fashioned hay scales and the first and only scales Rome had in those days. Sylvester Wilcox was weight master a number of years and after him Thomas Veazie had the position.

The two next houses west from E. A. Barnard's, formerly C. F. Green's, residence, were owned thirty five years ago by F. A. Mallison. The east one was erected by Isaac Knox and the west one by Gordonier Freer about 1840. The next building west was the harness shop of Newman Parker and James Merrill, as before mentioned. The next house was erected by Louis Gotier and became the property of Dr. Scudder. Going back on the same side of the street, it should be noted that the engine house was built about 1850.

The double house on the corner of Steuben street was erected by Soper & Simmons, the part next to Steuben street for Robert Walker and the other part for themselves. Horace N. Bill for a number of years owned and occupied the west part, and after him Shepard Lee resided there, and then William Wright, who died there. Subsequently A. Sandford purchased the house and resided there a number of years,

and sold to F. A. Thomas, who resided there and later sold to William Townsend, who occupied the house. The east part was occupied by Rev. S. Hayes and afterwards for many years by James Farquharson; afterwards O. Wheeler owned and occupied the house. It later passed to Dr. Kingsley.

The next house east was erected by Merrick Matteson not far from fifty years ago. The next two story house east with eaves to the street was erected by Dr. Blair not far from 1832 on the Parkhurst place, the doctor then owning and occupying the premises. Some forty-five years ago the building was removed to its later location.

The next house, occupied twenty-five years ago by James Elwell, was erected by Oscar M. Morton; it was greatly improved by Mr. Elwell. The brick house on the corner of Spring street was erected by John Stryker some forty years ago and was occupied by Bishop Whipple a number of years. E. P. Waite afterwards became its owner and occupant. It is now owned by Dr. J. S. Kingsley.

Crossing over to the opposite side of Liberty street we find that prior to 1835 that part of the old fort was a distressed looking place. There was a mound and there were ditches and trenches, and the grounds were used to deposit dead dogs, hogs, cats, horses and all the rubbish of the town. About 1835 Mr. Stryker cleared and leveled the northeast corner of the fort and erected his residence. A. W. Cole a few years after built a brick dwelling which became the property of Dr. Kingsley. D. B. Prince built a frame dwelling which stood next west, but which was purchased by Dr. Kingsley and removed across the street to the rear of the lot there. The small house in the yard of Stephen Ward was erected by A. H. Brainard on the rear of the lot and afterwards removed to its later location. The house owned and occupied by Mr. Ward was built about 1841 by E. W. Wight. The next house was erected by Joshua Dickinson, jr., about 1839, and was occupied in later years by Mr. Rathbun. A portion of the

house that became the residence of S. W. Mudge was erected by Oliver Greenwood about 1815; he had a blacksmith shop a little back and west of it. James Dallaba resided there and after him N. P. Stewart; then R. S. Doty and after him Mr. Mudge. The house was enlarged and improved by the last two men. The session room of the Presbyterian church stood east of Mr. Mudge's house, but on those premises. Many years ago it was sold to P. H. Coyle and by him removed to its later location and there it was burned. The residence of Dr. Scudder was erected about 1834 by Gen. Jesse Armstrong and he resided there until his death. About half way between that house and the residence of Mrs. E. Huntington, but nearer the street stood the Grosvenor school house before noticed. After being changed into a barn it was burned in the fire that destroyed Elm Row. The vine-covered cottage so long occupied by Zelotus Lord, as before mentioned, was removed about 1846 to make room for the residence of Mr. Huntington.

On the site of B. N. Huntington's residence, being the lot between the residence of Mrs. E. Huntington and Washington street, Gurdon Huntington about 1810 erected a story and a half frame dwelling which he occupied to his death about 1843; afterwards C. Comstock owned and occupied the premises and enlarged the house. About 1855 it was removed to the southwest corner of Washington and Bloomfield streets where it was owned and occupied by Dr. Cowles. It is now standing.

On the west end of the lot where Col. E. B. Armstrong lived, stood two small houses fifty years ago, both of them old. In the one nearest the tin shop Josiah Dickerson's son resided and the next one west was occupied by Sylvester Wilcox, who carried on the tin shop as heretofore mentioned. They were old tenant houses and in one of them Miss Dickerson died of cholera in 1832.

Where the residence of N. B. Foot (now D. P. McHarg's) was a small yellow wooden dwelling house seventy-five years ago. It was occupied about 1820 by Widow Alden, mother of Harriet Alden, who

taught school in the Parker Halleck house. After that Mr. Vanderheyden, grandfather of N. B. Judd, resided there. After that in about 1831 Eber P. Moon, publisher of the Rome Telegraph, lived there, and still later it was occupied by S. B. Stevens, D. Petrie, and Benjamin Whitmore. N. H. Leffingwell purchased the premises and the building was removed to the Turin road on the Lampman place and is now occupied by J. P. Olney. Mr. Leffingwell erected the present brick building about 1855.

Where the Parkhurst or Leonard house stands, now the residence of Wheeler Armstrong, there was erected a frame dwelling prior to 1820. Dr Blair built the wing which was afterwards removed to near Mr. Elwell's, as previously stated. The premises were afterwards owned by Horace Adams, and there Comstock Baker lived and died. Adam Van Patten lived there awhile. The main part of the building was moved to the corner of Steuben and Church streets, where William Williams occupied it. Not far from 1847 Benjamin Leonard erected the present building there, where he lived until his death. William S. Parkhurst next owned and occupied the premises until his death. Wheeler Armstrong now resides there.

The house where John S. Baker resides was built by Cornelius Hollister about 1828.

The Universalist church on the corner was built about 1823 for a Masonic Hall by Roman Lodge F. & A. M. and Rome Chapter R. A. M., the upper part being used for that purpose and the lower part as an Episcopal chapel. (See history of churches in later pages). The house on the opposite corner of Liberty street was erected about 1818 by Francis Bicknell.

Prior to 1830 Liberty street west of Washington was unopened; there was not a solitary building in that part of Rome through which Liberty street has been extended; in fact that part of the town then composed a part of the farm of Dominick Lynch, as has been stated.

In the year last above named Alanson Bennett, Charles Brown, Moses G. Watson, and Miss Olive Robbins went on to that unoccupied space between Washington and George streets and erected a frame house in that year. -

Mr. Bennett built a house on the lot where St. Mary's church now is. Mr. Watson erected a house that was afterwards occupied by C. M. Dennison and prior to that by Elon Comstock, and prior to that by Ambrose Coan, to whom the house was sold by Mr. Watson. Mr. Brown built the house afterwards occupied by L. E. Elmer, and Miss Robbins erected the house where she resided until her death.

The next house on that part of Liberty street was erected by Allen Briggs about 1832 where W. N. Caswell resided, and where Israel S. Parker lived a number of years, and after him Matthew Huntington and James H. Carroll.

In 1828 Mr. Watson leased of Mr. Lynch for a period of thirty years, by paying annual interest on \$250, that strip of ground between Mr. Parker's house and the alley, which lease Mr. Watson sold to Mr. Parker who occupied it. Mr. Caswell erected on the lot next to the alley the dwelling house now there.

In 1832 Jephtha Matteson erected the house where he resided until his death on the north side of Liberty street. Cyrus Hayden erected for his father, Henry Hayden, the house on the site where the residence of William Atkinson now is; that was about 1836. It was subsequently removed to George street and became the residence of Cyrus Hayden, and is now occupied by C. T. Hayden.

About 1834 William McPhee erected the house next to and just west of the Universalist church. He lived there a number of years and sold to G. W. Taft. Afterward M. K. Johnson owned and occupied the building. The house now owned and occupied by Mr. Atkinson was erected about 1848.

About 1840 Isaac M. Pinckney and W. Mormon built the double

house standing between the site of the Miss Robbins house and the one owned by Mr. Dennison. S. B. Stevens formerly owned it and resided here many years.

Not far from 1834 John M. Root built a bake shop on the lot afterwards occupied by John Hook on Dominick street, now Hook Block, and carried on quite an extensive business there until about 1843, having then moved into the Draper store near the Tremont House. L. E. Elmer bought and removed that building upon the lot of Mr. Elmer on Liberty street and Mr. Root resided there a number of years, and up to the time of his removal to Saratoga county.

On the site occupied twenty-five years ago by Rev. H. L. M. Clarke, Samuel Hungerford erected a small frame dwelling afterward owned by E. W. Wight. It was occupied by R. Keeney, H. G. Giles, and S. Lawrence. It was removed to the south side of Dominick street next east of the arsenal property. The dwelling of Rev. Mr. Clarke was erected by S. W. Morton some forty five years ago. About 1840 S. Hungerford erected the house on the southeast corner of Liberty street, where he afterwards lived. About 1842 the house afterwards occupied by Miss White on the north side of Liberty street, on the corner of the Alley, and a short distance from George street, was removed from the site of the Armstrong block to its later location. Samuel N. Sheldon resided there many years.

The frame part in the rear of the brick house of N. P. Rudd was erected about 1832 for Mrs. Graves, mother of Asa W. She resided here until her death. After that John Tibbits resided there. The house on the corner of Liberty and George streets, where Dr. West formerly resided, was erected about 1845 by Henry Savery, of Western.

CHAPTER XI.

A FEW OF THE EARLY PROMINENT ROMANS.

The first Rome merchant located at Fort Stanwix early in the spring of 1793 and displayed his slender stock of goods in a room in the tavern kept by John Barnard, a little northeasterly of the site of the present court house. This merchant was George Huntington, a native of Connecticut, twenty-three years old. He had served a year as clerk at Whitestown and had visited the Fort prospecting, and concluded that the outlook for trade was good. He accordingly joined with his brother Henry and began business as above stated. In 1794 Mr. Huntington built a frame store and a frame dwelling on Dominick street near the corner where the Merrill block was erected. Some of the account books of that old mercantile firm are in existence, and it is of interest to know that seventy or eighty years ago charges were made for rum and brandy against customers about as frequently as for any other merchandise; this would be equally true with reference to any other merchant of those days, and a list of such customers included deacons, elders and members of churches as well as others. When Rome was organized as a town in 1796 Mr. Huntington was supervisor, and when the county was formed three years later he was appointed one of the side judges of the Common Pleas, and was twice reappointed. He was elected supervisor of Rome in 1804, 1814 and 1817. In 1810 he was elected to the Assembly, and in 1813 was elected lieutenant-governor on the "War Ticket." In 1815 he ran for the State Senate in opposition to Henry Seymour, father of Governor Seymour, but was defeated. He was elected to the Assembly in 1818-19-20-21. Under the new Constitution of 1822 he ran again for senator, but was defeated. He



E. J. LAWTON, M. D.

was trustee of Rome village in 1820-21-22-26-27. He and his brother Henry retired from mercantile business about 1816 and devoted their attention to their other interests in the State. George Huntington died in Rome in September, 1841.

Henry Huntington was elected as assessor and school commissioner in Rome in 1800, and 1803-7 was chosen supervisor. In 1804 he was elected to the State Senate, the first one in Rome. In 1806 he was a member of the Council of Appointment, and 1808 and 1812 was presidential elector. In 1816-17 he was elected to the Assembly, and in June, 1821, was elected a member of the Constitutional Convention. He ran twice for lieutenant-governor, 1822 and 1826, but was defeated on both occasions. The Bank of Utica was started in 1812 and in the following year Mr. Huntington was elected as its second president and held the position until a short time before his death, a period of thirty-two years. He died in Rome in October, 1846.

Alva Mudge was the son of Nathaniel, and the latter was the sixth generation from Jarvis Mudge, the first of the name to come to America from England in 1638. Nathaniel Mudge settled in Rome not far from 1800 and lived in a small frame house just west of the site of the Will-ett House. He afterwards lived in other places, and had a grocery on the corner of James and Whitesboro streets, on a part of the site of Stanwix Hall. He died in February, 1821. Alva Mudge was the fourth of his ten children and the elder son. In 1826 he began business as a grocer in the old Checkered building. In 1837 he and his brother-in-law, Roland S. Doty, purchased the premises on Dominick street in some part of which he was long in business, either alone or with Mr. Doty. During his long life in Rome he was prominently identified with the growth of the place, and as trustee of the village, of the Presbyterian church, a director in the banks and various other enterprises, he gained the confidence and respect of the community.

Lebbeus E. Elmer, son of Theodorus Elmer, was born in Montgom-

ery county October 21, 1791. He worked at farming until he was twenty years old, and in June, 1831, settled in Rome. The first work he did was to aid Nathaniel Mudge in digging a well on the lot where Stanwix Hall stands. Later he began the grocery trade. He married a sister of Alva Mudge and was all the remainder of his life a leading citizen. He held the offices of assistant U. S. assessor of internal revenue, U. S. deputy collector, deputy sheriff, and other positions of honor.

John B. Jervis came with his parents to Rome, from Long Island, in the same year Oneida county was formed. In 1817, when the construction of the Erie Canal commenced, Benjamin Wright, the engineer, was in need of an axman, and young Jervis was temporarily engaged. He was ready with an ax and apt in learning, and soon after he was promoted to the position of rodman in the survey, for twelve dollars per month. He then turned his attention to the study and practice of surveying and engineering, and made such proficiency under Mr. Wright that in two years he was made resident engineer, at one dollar and a quarter a day, on seventeen miles of the canal, extending from Madison into Onondaga county. After remaining there two years he was made resident engineer for two years more, on a more difficult and important division near Amsterdam. In 1823 he was made superintendent of the work for fifty miles of the canal, employing and discharging all the subordinates. When the canal was completed in 1825, having been seven years on that work, he resigned to engage in higher duties, and he received from Henry Seymour, canal commissioner and the father of Governor Seymour, a kind and very commendatory letter. He received from Benjamin Wright, then chief engineer of the Delaware and Hudson Canal, the appointment of assistant engineer, and upon Mr. Jervis devolved the main duties. He examined the route, and on his recommendation the use of the river, for part of the way, as was first intended, was abandoned. He was engaged as engineer on a great

many other works of internal improvement, among which may be mentioned the railroad between Albany and Schenectady, the Schenectady and Saratoga Railroad, the Chenango Canal, the eastern division of the Erie Canal on its enlargement in 1836, the Croton Water Works, supplying New York city with water, and which was considered the greatest piece of engineering skill in the world, and the success of which gave Mr. Jervis a world wide reputation. He was consulting engineer to supply Boston with water, and chief engineer of the Hudson River Railroad, etc. The water works of Port Jervis (a place on the Erie Railroad named after him) were constructed under his approval and the Rome water works plan was submitted to him and received his sanction. He was during most of his long life a consistent and active member of the First church in Rome, which he joined in 1816.

Lynden Abell, who died June 28, 1884, was a native of New Hampshire, and settled in Rome in 1826. He was a baker and confectioner, and later a prominent contractor on public works, particularly on the canals. He was one of the founders of the First M. E. church, and an honorable and useful citizen.

Marquis D. Hollister died November 23, 1891. He was born in the town of Chatham, Conn., in June, 1811, and after learning the harness-making trade, settled in Rome in the winter of 1836-7, leasing a hotel the property of his uncle, Jeremiah Brainerd, on the south side of the canal, for \$150 a year. Four years later he engaged in the stage and livery business with Giles Hawley and M. L. Kenyon. In 1846 he leased the Stanwix Hall hotel and kept it two years, afterwards re-engaging in the livery business which he followed until 1885. He was a Whig politician of some prominence.

Jesse Walworth was born in the town of Rome, July 26, 1806, and died March 9, 1892. His father was also named Jesse, and was one of the pioneers. Mr. Walworth was employed nearly the whole of his active life in building operations for Benjamin and Edward Huntington.

He was a Whig and Republican in politics, but held no office except village trustee.

William T. Pratt, born in Lyme, Conn., October 29, 1800, was a son of Daniel Pratt, and died in Rome, April 1, 1893. The family settled in Rome in 1816. Mr. Pratt was a carpenter by trade and was engaged in building operations up to within a short time of his death. He was upright in business and an industrious and useful citizen.

CHAPTER XII.

BUSINESS INTERESTS OF ROME IN 1848.

The following is a record of the major part of the business interests in Rome in 1848 :

It should be borne in mind that the great fire in January, 1846, which originated in the shoeshop (up stairs) of John McCarrick, in a building then situated where the store of R. Keeney afterwards was, swept away all of the buildings on the northerly side of Dominick street from and including the American corner to a point a little west of the site of the Willett House. In that year and the next the burned district was mainly rebuilt, except that most of the buildings east of where Rufus Keeney & Son's hat store was were not ready for occupancy until late in the year 1847 and some not until 1848. The Willett House was finished in the last named year and E. R. Lewis became its first landlord, and a capital landlord and a prince of good fellows he was. He subsequently removed to Chittenango and kept the Spring House there, and not far from 1857 was chief clerk in the National Hotel at Washington.

In 1846 William Atkinson was in the clothing business in what became a shoe store next to the Willett House. Mr. Atkinson had clerked in Kingsley's clothing store in Utica for four years prior to 1847 and in September of that year he came to Rome to start in business. Next east of Mr. Atkinson, Peck & Keeler were in the notion and dry goods trade. Subsequently Mr. Keeler went across the street and the firm of Keeler & Stokes was there established. About 1868-70 Mr. Keeler went to New York. Next east of Peck & Keeler J. Stalker was in the clothing business. He came from New York city in the spring of 1847

and subsequently located on the opposite side of Dominick street. In the store afterwards occupied by Mr. Atkinson, H. A. Wilcox and S. W. Mudge were in the dry goods and crockery trade. Farther east Elmer Brothers carried on a grocery and bakery. Where Wardwell Brothers are, Harmon Emerson was in the hardware business and over this store Dr. J. A. Cowles had his dental rooms.

In 1847 Daniel Cady had come up from the Armstrong block and located in Jephtha Matteson's building where J. S. Dyett afterwards carried on business. It was considered in that year quite out of town, as it was the last dry goods store west on that side of the street. Mr. Cady kept dry goods and dealt extensively in merchant iron. H. D. Spencer, H. K. White, and Eugene Vogell were his clerks. Mr. Spencer came to Rome as his clerk in 1845 and Mr. White in the spring of 1846 and a few years later went into business for themselves. The firm of Spencer & White has ever since been in existence and is the oldest in that line in Rome.

On that side of the street T. J. Hyde and A. H. Edgerton were in the grocery business. Francis Bicknell was in jewelry trade near there and also J. S. Hovey. S. B. Stevens was in the boot and shoe business in the store afterwards occupied by M. M. Davis; he came to Rome in 1826. Robert Walker and Morris Chappell were merchant tailors in the store afterwards occupied by Robert T. Walker. Near by, Levi Scofil and Richard Dunning were together in the grocery and provision business. Jephtha Matteson was engaged in the cabinet and furniture business. He came to Rome in 1820 and started in the business in 1824. C. F. Williams and Jabez Wight were partners in the hat, cap, and fur business in the store long occupied by N. P. Rudd, and Rufus Keeney was then in their employ. J. A. Dudley and H. S. Hill were in the drug business where F. J. Hager & Co. now are. Henry Veazie was a merchant tailor just east of Dudley & Hill. Dr. J. M. Sturdevant had come from Lewis county that year and had his office in

the Empire block, the same building where a quarter of a century later he was found dead in a chair in his office.

The American was kept by A. Rowe, whose rotund form and genial face will be remembered by some of the older Romans. Just around the corner on James street Frank Edwards was established in the boot and shoe trade; some years later he removed to the southerly side of Dominick street opposite the Willett House. Next to Mr. Edwards, R. G. Savery was in trade. James Merrill, sr., who built the Merrill block in 1844, was in the harness and saddlery business there in 1848, and Gordonier Freer was at work in the same building. Mr. Freer came to Rome in April, 1831, on the first canal packet that left Utica in that year. In 1848 Dr. J. V. Cobb had his dwelling and office on or near the site of the Sink opera house. On the grounds occupied by the Hill block and the Fort Stanwix Bank building, there stood the Northern Hotel then kept by Horace Putnam, father of P. R. and B. H. Putnam. Mr. Putnam was a genial and companionable landlord and had a large patronage from the surrounding country. Stanwix Hall was then kept by M. D. Hollister.

In the Armstrong block J. & E. B. Armstrong were in trade. Col. E. B. Armstrong became a Roman in 1826 and no man was more actively engaged in business or made a deeper impress on the material interests of the place than he. The law firm of Foster, Bennett & Boardman was in the same block, and H. W. Johnson was a law student in the office. He was subsequently deputy secretary of state. In the same block Henry Hayden and S. P. Lewis were in trade and Thomas Ball had just started a drug store there. In the upper story of that block the Rome Sentinel was published by C. Comstock and A. J. Rowley. Opposite that block and in the white store house on the canal, W. O. McClure was in the book and periodical trade, and I. S. Parker was in the forwarding business.

In the building where was erected the Dyett block, H. M. Lawton and R. S. Doty were in the grocery business and also were partners with Mudge, Langford & Co. in dry goods and hardware trade further up the street and around the corner on Dominick street. Mr. Lawton first came to Rome in 1842. Glen Petrie was in the meat business in the Dyett block on the canal. He came to Rome in 1832 and learned the trade of butcher with James Farquharson, then in that business on the old canal. William McPhee was a merchant tailor in the same building, and J. B. McHarg was in business up stairs. Alva Mudge, P. B. Langford, and Frank De Ryther were of the firm of Mudge, Langford & Co. Mr. Mudge was for many years a conspicuous figure in the business interests of Rome.

Fort Stanwix Bank was started in 1848 and was located on the corner where Lawton & Co.'s store was. David Utley was its first president; W. N. Nellis, cashier, and H. G. Utley, teller. On the second floor overhead Comstock & Beach were together as attorneys and their only law student was David E. Wager. On the third floor of that block the Roman Citizen was published by Alfred Sandford and George Scott. J. P. Fitch was editor. Judge G. H. Lynch was admitted to the bar a year or so before and he and John Stryker were law partners and had their office near that of Comstock & Beach. Where the First National Bank is now located, Nathaniel Mudge had a dry goods store in 1848. O. D. & C. P. Grosvenor had a bookstore where is now the Armstrong store.

W. H. and Z. Hill and William L. Howland were in company in the dry goods trade where H. W. Mitchell was afterwards located. Overhead Frost & Utley and C. M. Denison had their law offices. In the third story of that block was Tibbits Hall where the courts were held in 1848, while the court house was being built. It was the only public hall in Rome in those days. In the Checkered store afterwards occupied by G. N. & J. G. Bissell, G. N. and J. G. Bissell and Benjamin Leonard



NEWTON MANN.

were partners in the drug business. Timothy N. Kellogg was their clerk. Some old citizens may remember the witticisms and practical jokes of genial Tim Kellogg. Overhead, Drs. H. H. Pope and H. H. Beach had their office. Next beyond was the store built by H. G. Giles and where he was in the stove trade in 1848. Farther west and next to the Central Bank building was the Arcade where the post-office was kept by Jay Hathaway. Drs. A. Blair and T. J. Bergen were partners and had their office there.

James H. Carroll, who came to Rome in 1830, had a boot and shoe store in the Arcade, and G. E. Cone, who first came to Rome in 1837, was Mr. Carroll's foreman. Perkins & Allport were together in the dental business. Andrew Gilbert had a barber shop in the Arcade, Mrs. S. Mallison a millinery store, and J. B. Smith a daguerrean gallery. On the ground now occupied by Spencer & White, Jacob Stevens kept the Farmers' Hotel in a wooden structure, and had since 1835. Farther on John Harrington had just started a saloon. Still farther west L. E. Elmer and J. M. Root were in the bakery business and near by A. Spencer, who came to Rome in 1838, was in the stove business and with him as employee was J. D. Ely. Mr. Ely, when a boy on June 27, 1839, came to Rome on the first train of cars which ran over the road west of Utica. Benjamin Lehman had a dry goods store near by and Daniel Sterns had a grocery nearly opposite the Willett House; in that vicinity also George Alexander and Alva Briggs were in the furniture business.

Joseph Higgins had a blacksmith shop where he continued many later years, and Col. J. B. Bradt was in the same business, but found time to attend to politics. He was a resident of Rome from 1828. Woodman Kimball was a master builder and an influential Whig; B. C. Dean was in the same business, as also was D. B. Prince. John J. Parry, jr., was then just coming to the front as a master mechanic and builder and an active Democratic politician. V. O. Amidon was ex-

press messenger. E. M. Hinckley railroad ticket agent and the first one in Rome, and G. W. Swan was telegraph operator and clerk in the post-office. Daniel Petrie was a Rome constable. A. W. Cole was a painter and glazier and George P. Russ, who came to Rome in 1846, was learning his trade with Mr. Cole. Orson Wheeler was a manufacturer of plows and Albert Soper and W. R. Simmons had a lumber yard on the canal near Washington street and a carpenter shop on Liberty street east of James. J. M. Orton was in the furniture business and A. A. Pavey in the notion trade. Harrison Jacobs, who came to Rome in 1825, was in the forwarding and grocery business on the canal. N. H. Leffingwell and B. B. Hyde were in the forwarding business in the old red storehouse, and A. Ethridge and W. Northrup were in groceries in the white storehouse opposite the Armstrong block. In that year Mr. Ethridge was for the first time elected supervisor and Frank De Ryther town clerk in the Democratic town of Rome.

The only public school then in the village was taught by C. W. White in the school house on the site of Zion church. E. H. Shelley was town superintendent of schools, and the trustees were J. D. Gage, R. G. Savery, and Elon Comstock. The Rome Academy was started that year with Rev. S. R. Brown, principal, and J. S. Townsend, assistant. Miss S. Jennings was preceptress and Miss Cadwell assistant, with Miss Sarah G. Sill in charge of the primary department.

Thomas, Court and Embargo streets were unoccupied west of Washington street, and George street was worked only as far north as Court street. There was only one dwelling on the west side of Washington street (the Presbyterian parsonage) between the dwelling of the late M. L. Brainard and the dwelling of J. B. Jervis. There were only two or three trains each way on the Syracuse and Utica Railroad and the New York papers did not reach Rome until thirty-six hours after their issue.

While these notes do not, probably, cover every business interest at Rome at the date under consideration, they give a good general idea of the situation.

CHAPTER XIII.

CITY INCORPORATION AND CIVIL LIST.

Rome was incorporated as a city by an act entitled "an act to incorporate the city of Rome," passed February 23, 1870, of which the following is a copy :

§ 1. All that part of the county of Oneida now known as and being the town of Rome shall be a city, known as the city of Rome, and the citizens of this State from time to time inhabitants within the said boundaries shall be a corporation by the name of the city of Rome, and as such may sue and be sued, complain and defend in any court, make and use a common seal, and alter it at pleasure; and may receive by gift, grant, devise, bequest, or purchase, and hold and convey, such real or personal property as the purpose of the corporation may require.

§ 2. (As amended by § 6, chapter 576, Laws of 1875.) The said city shall be divided into five wards respectively, as follows, namely:

First Ward.—All that portion of said city bounded as follows, viz.: Beginning at a point at the intersection of James and Dominick Streets, in the city of Rome; running thence along the centre of James Street to the intersection thereof with the Wright Settlement Road, near the Ridge Mills; thence along the centre of the Wright Settlement Road and the Watson Hollow Road to the line of said city and town of Floyd; thence running along said southerly line to the centre of the Mohawk River; thence running up said river, and the centre thereof, to said Dominick Street; thence running along the centre of said Dominick Street to the place of beginning, shall comprise the First Ward.

Second Ward.—All that part of said city bounded as follows, viz.: Lying south of the First Ward and east of a line commencing at the intersection of said James and Dominick Streets, and running along the centre of said James Street and the Madison Plank-Road to the intersection of said plank-road with the road to Verona Village at the Oneida County Poor-House, and thence along the centre of said Verona Road to the city line, shall comprise the Second Ward.

Third Ward.—All that part of said city described as follows, viz.: Lying westerly of the Second Ward and southerly of a line commencing at the intersection of said James and Dominick Streets, and running along the centre of said Dominick

street, prolonged along the centre of the highway to the junction of the Rome and Taberg and former Rome and Oswego Plank-Roads; thence running along the centre of said last-named road to the city line, shall comprise the Third Ward.

Fourth Ward.—All that part of said city described as follows, viz.: Lying northerly of the Third Ward and westerly of a line commencing at the centre of said Dominick Street and George Street in the former village of Rome; running thence up the centre of said George Street to Thomas Street in said village; thence running along the centre of said Thomas Street to the Cemetery Road so called; thence along the line to the centre of said Cemetery Road prolonged to the line of said city and town of Lee, near the house of William H. Smith, at Lee Line, so called, shall comprise the Fourth Ward.

Fifth Ward.—All that part of said city described as follows, viz.: Lying easterly of the Fourth Ward, westerly of the First Ward, and northerly of the centre of Dominick Street, shall comprise the Fifth Ward.

The first city election was held March 1, 1870, and the following officers were elected, viz.: Mayor, Calvert Comstock; recorder, Stephen Van Dresar; collector, Joseph Kapfer; assessors, N. Hyde Leffingwell, George Hauck, David D. Morton; justices of the peace, George W. Davis, James H. Southworth; constables, Thomas C. Wilds, Daniel Petrie, Daniel Krebs, James E. Hibbard; First Ward officers: Supervisor, Henry O. Southworth; aldermen, George Merrill, George P. Russ, John Shortall; inspectors of election, Charles F. Green, George H. Brodock, Henry W. Pell. Second Ward officers: Supervisor, John Singleton; aldermen, Martin Toepp, James Hagerty, Harmon Oeinck; inspectors of election, Harrison H. Hartwell, Stephen Van Dresar, William McPherson. Third Ward officers: Supervisor, John Reifert; aldermen, John De Ryther, Peter Connor, Christian Nestle, sr.; inspectors of election, Louis Roth, James Corcoran, Jonathan Talcott. Fourth Ward officers: Supervisor, James Stevens; aldermen, Cyrus Hayden, William Parker, William H. Davies; inspectors of election, Giles K. Brown, William W. Smith, William R. Olney. Fifth Ward officers: Supervisor, Alfred Ethridge; aldermen, A. P. Tuller, William Jackson, Glen Petrie; inspectors of election, L. E. Elmer, Edward H. Shelley, Alva Whedon.

1871.—Mayor, George Merrill. Supervisors,¹ Henry O. Southworth, George Barnard, John Reiffert, Daniel Hager, Alfred Ethridge. Aldermen, John Shortall, Andrew Effler, Christian Nestle, Walter Lamb, Jerome Graves. Recorder, Stephen Van Dresar.

1872 —Mayor, George Merrill. Supervisors, Henry O. Southworth, George Barnard, James D. Corcoran, Daniel Hager, Alfred Ethridge. Aldermen, George P. Russ, Andrew J. Sink, Dennis J. Griffin, Gorman G. Armstrong, William Jackson. Recorder, Stephen Van Dresar.

1873.—Mayor, George Merrill. Supervisors, N. H. Leffingwell, George Barnard, James D. Corcoran, Erastus Tiffany, George W. G. Kinney. Aldermen, Daniel L. Ketcham, George P. Goodier, Peter Quinn. Fred E. Mitchell, Alfred Sandford. Recorder, Stephen Van Dresar.

1874.—Mayor, George Merrill. Supervisors, N. H. Leffingwell, George Barnard, James D. Corcoran, Erastus Tiffany, George W. G. Kinney. Aldermen, Richard H. Jones, Joseph Kapfer, Samuel M. Cole, Cyrus D. Prescott. Recorder, G. Harrison Lynch.

1875.—Mayor, Samuel B. Stevens. Supervisors, N. H. Leffingwell, George Barnard, James D. Corcoran, Erastus Tiffany, George W. G. Kinney. Aldermen, Franklin B. Beers, John Kelley, Moulton M. Burlison, Jerome L. Mudge, Robert T. Walker. Recorder, G. Harrison Lynch.

1876.—Mayor, Samuel B. Stevens. Supervisors, N. H. Leffingwell, Lawrence Gaheen, James D. Corcoran, Erastus Tiffany, George W. G. Kinney. Aldermen, John Shortall, Peter Cole, William Shanley, Frederick E. Mitchell, Don P. McHarg. Recorder, G. Harrison Lynch.

1877.—Mayor, Edward L. Stevens. Supervisors, N. H. Leffingwell, Lawrence Gaheen, W. J. Cramond, Homer T. Fowler, George W. G. Kinney. Aldermen, John Grosvenor, John Foy, Thomas Casey, Samuel Millington, Henry M. Lawton. Recorder, G. Harrison Lynch.

¹ In the succeeding annual lists the supervisors and aldermen are given in the order of the numbers of the wards.

1878.—Mayor, Edward L. Stevens. Supervisors, N. H. Leffingwell, Lawrence Gaheen, Wilson Smith, Homer T. Fowler, David G. Evans. Aldermen, Franklin B. Beers, Isaac Singleton, L. E. Seymour, William H. Davis, Jerome Graves. Recorder, James Parks.

1879.—Mayor, George Barnard. Supervisors, James Hagerty, Lawrence Gaheen, James D. Corcoran, Frederick K. Jones, David G. Evans. Aldermen, Martin Thalman, Martin Hyde, William Shanley, F. E. Mitchell, Charles S. Smith. Recorder, James Parks.

1880.—Mayor George Barnard. Supervisors, James Hagerty, Lawrence Gaheen, James D. Corcoran, Frederick K. Jones, Owen E. Owens. Aldermen, John Grosvenor, Andrew Gossman, Griffith W. Jones, John S. Baker. Recorder, James Parks.

1881.—Mayor, Edward Constock. Supervisors, James Hagerty, William Baynes, James D. Corcoran, Erastus Tiffany, Owen E. Owens. Aldermen, Edward Boylan, Frank H. Wetzell, L. E. Seymour, William H. Davies, John F. Williams. Recorder, James Parks.

1882.—Mayor, Edward Comstock. Supervisors, James Hagerty, William Baynes, James D. Corcoran, Erastus Tiffany, Glen W. Petrie. Aldermen, Dennis F. Russell, Martin Hyde, Dennis Griffin, Edward Jones, Joseph I. Sayles. Recorder, Charles H. Dunning.

1883.—Mayor, Frederick E. Mitchell. Supervisors, James Hagerty, William Baynes, Oscar D. Williams, George Hammann, Glen W. Petrie. Aldermen, Winfield S. Wylie, Jacob F. Nuffer, James H. Grogan, Addison G. Roof, R. C. Briggs. Recorder, Charles H. Dunning.

1884.—Mayor, Frederick E. Mitchell. Supervisors, James Hagerty, Jacob Durr, Oscar D. Williams, George Hammann, Glen W. Petrie. Aldermen, Lawrence Carey, Adam Derrick, James D. Corcoran, Peter Dick, John F. Williams. Recorder, Charles H. Dunning.

1885.—Mayor, Edward Comstock. Supervisors, James Hagerty, Jacob Durr, William J. Cramond, George Hammann, Hedding A. Caswell. Aldermen, Thomas Rowan, Martin Hyde, John Wolff, Edward Jones, Lyman A. Martin. Recorder, Charles H. Dunning.

1886.—Mayor, Edward Comstock. Supervisors, John T. Hagarty, Frederick Linn, Willard G. Teelin, Erastus Tiffany, Hedding A. Caswell. Aldermen, George P. Russ, Edward Campbell, James H. Grogan, George Hammann, John S. Wardwell. Recorder, John D. McMahon.

1887.—Mayor, James Stevens. Supervisors, John T. Hagarty, Frederick Dinn, William G. Teelin, Sylvester C. Baldwin, Hedding A. Caswell. Aldermen, Lawrence Carey, William E. Rothmund, Joseph L. Euper, Peter Dick, William H. George. Recorder, John D. McMahon.

1888.—Mayor, James Stevens. Supervisors, David E. Pugh, Frederick Linn, William J. Casserly, Sylvester C. Baldwin, Hedding A. Caswell. Aldermen, Thomas Rowan, Martin Hyde, Dennis Griffin, Edward Jones, Lyman Martin. Recorder, John D. McMahon.

1889.—Mayor, James Stevens. Supervisors, Jeremiah H. Carroll, Henry F. Isenecker, William J. Cramond, William C. White, Ezra Hilts. Aldermen, George P. Russ, Frank Broker, Patrick H. Grogan, George Hammann, William H. Maxham. Recorder, John D. McMahon.

1890.—Mayor, James Stevens. Supervisors, Jeremiah H. Carroll, Henry F. Isenecker, John H. Lackey, William C. White, Ezra Hilts. Aldermen, John L. Dowd, William E. Rothmund, Joseph L. Euper, James R. Thomas, Elon J. Lawton. Recorder, John D. McMahon.

1891.—Mayor, E. Stuart Williams. Supervisors, Jeremiah H. Carroll, Louis M. Mittenmaier, Joseph Kapfer, John D. Ernst, Ezra Hilts. Aldermen, James Kenefick, Sanford Rudel, Martin Marriott, George Hauck, jr., Lyman A. Martin. Recorder, John D. McMahon (resigned and Joseph S. Baker appointed).

1892.—Mayor, E. Stuart Williams. Supervisors, Jay Capron, Henry F. Isenecker, Patrick Carmody, John D. Ernst, Ezra Hilts. Aldermen, J. Millard Brainerd, John Pfeiffer, James H. Grogan, Henry S. Wetherbee, Hedding A. Caswell. Recorder, Howard C. Wiggins.

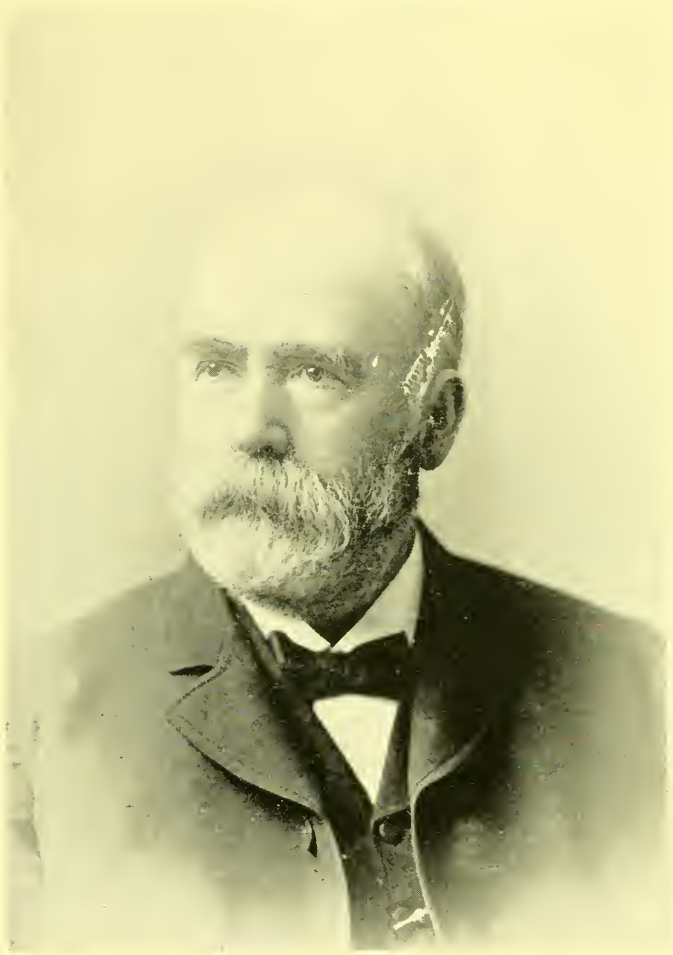
1893.—Mayor, Samuel Gillett. Supervisors, Lars Englund, John Singleton, Anthony T. Hoffman, John D. Ernst, Abram Jones. Aldermen, John F. Atkinson, William E. Rothmund, George J. Roth, Charles A. Fowler, Elon J. Lawton. Recorder, Howard C. Wiggins.

1894.—Mayor, Samuel Gillett. Supervisors, Jay Capron, John Singleton, Anthony T. Hoffman, George G. Gifford, Abram Jones. Aldermen, Edward H. Walworth, George McLaughlin, Alois Mertz, George Erhardt, Lyman A. Martin. Recorder, Charles Carmichael.

1895.—Mayor, W. J. P. Kingsley. Supervisors, Jay Capron, John Singleton, A. T. Hoffman, Geo. C. Gifford, Abram Jones. Aldermen, A. F. Sayles, Joseph Reh, James H. Grogan, Henry S. Wetherbee, Oswald P. Backus. Recorder, Charles Carmichael.

1896.—Mayor, W. J. P. Kingsley. Supervisors, Lawrence Carey, John Singleton, Malthew Whalen, Eugene L. Hinckley, Hedding A. Caswell. Aldermen, James H. McLean, Frederick Lewis, Wm J. Cramond, Charles T. Hayden, Abram N. Honsinger. Recorder, Charles Carmicheal.

Other officers for 1896 are as follows: Assessors, W. Dewey Reese, Richard H. Jones, William G. Jones; John E. Mason, clerk. Fire and Police, Thomas G. Nock, William L. Kingsley, Howard C. Wiggins, Theodore J. Mowry; W. O. Jenks, clerk; Michael Hagerty, chief of police; Leonard Briggs, acting chief fire department. Water and Sewerage, W. P. Kingsley, *ex officio*, chairman; John S. Baker, Harvey S. Bedell, Albert R. Kessinger, Jonathan S. Haselton; H. S. Wetherbee, clerk and superintendent.



THOS. G. NOCK.

CHAPTER XIV.

SCHOOLS OF ROME.

The reader of the foregoing pages has learned substantially all that is known of the earliest schools in Rome village. These included the school and building on the southeast corner of the park, where the early courts were held. There was also the well known Grosvenor school, the Huntington school, the one taught in the "Long House" by Abby Bullock about 1812, all of which have been described. The first schools in the town outside of the village were taught very early in the Wright Settlement neighborhood, where a log school house was built before 1800; this was afterwards burned. About 1816-7 another house was erected on the corner of "Penny street" and the road leading east past the Canterbury Hill school house; there Miss Achsah Raynsford, afterwards the wife of Josiah Hills, was the teacher at one time.

There is no means of ascertaining the precise year that the old school house near Fort Stanwix was erected; but it is fair to infer that the school law of 1795 stimulated the inhabitants of the locality to erect it, so as to get the benefit of the public money, and that such erection was in that year, or the next one at the latest. Not many years ago there was in the possession of one of Rome's old residents then living, a report made in 1797, of the teacher of the school of the "Fort District" (as Rome was then called), showing that from May 29 to September 9 in that year, the whole number of days' attendance at school was 1,979, and that there were fifty-four children in attendance. The following are the names of a few of the pupils: Jay Hathaway, Sally Hathaway, Abigail Barnard, Charity Barnard, Cicero Gould, Sheldon Logan, William, Joseph and Clarissa Fish, William, Hugh

and Betsy Colbrath, Anne Hayes and William White. Shadrach Hathaway was the name of the school master. The school house stood at the southeast corner of the old west park, as stated near the sidewalk, and about where the foot path now turns in from James street. It was a story and a half building, some 30 by 40 feet, the roof having four sides and running up to a point in the center. The writing desks were against the wall, with two or three rows of seats, the back or outer seats being higher than those in front. There was a swing partition in the center of the building, making two apartments, by which two could be made into one by swinging and fastening up the lower half or part of the partition, as was doubtless done when courts were held there.

Among those who were pupils at that school house in early years were Hon. John B. Jervis, William E. Wright, J. Burr Brainard, Alva Mudge, N. Hyde Leffingwell. Hon. O. B. Matteson, late of Utica, was a pupil there many years ago. It was used as a public school house until 1819, when a new one was erected on the site now occupied by Zion church; that was burned and was succeeded by the Liberty street school, the common school law of the State having meanwhile been materially changed and improved.

That old building in the park which for a quarter of a century did good service as a school house, and was also used for a considerable of the time as a court room, a place for town meetings, and for religious worship, was moved about 1819 on to the rear end of the lot occupied as a residence by Dr. R. E. Sutton, and there for a number of years was used by Russell Bartlett as a store room for lumber, his cabinet shop being near by. In 1820 Mr. Bartlett's shop was burned by an incendiary, but the old school house was saved, and was afterwards converted into a barn, and its history cannot be traced further. It was probably the first school house erected within the present limits of Oneida county.

No detailed history of the schools of the whole town prior to the incorporation of the Rome Academy can be given, as no records are in existence. The town was divided into districts as circumstances demanded, and respectable frame school houses took the place of the first ones of logs. At the present time there are eighteen districts with a school house in each.

The Rome Academy was incorporated April 28, 1835, and was re-incorporated by the Board of Regents March 15, 1849. The three-story brick structure still in use was built by subscription in 1848. Further history of the schools of Rome is found in the following quotations from the report of the Board of Education for 1877 :

No records of the schools previous to 1850 are found, and those of a later date are not of such a character as would enable one to prepare a full history of their progress without the aid of concurrent memory.

In 1850 the Libety street building was erected under the supervision of R. G. Savery, E. Comstock, and E. Seymour as trustees. Little change has since been effected in its outward appearance. For many years each of the three floors was occupied by a department, the boys and girls being seated in different rooms.

In the winter of 1851 and 1852, an attempt was made by the trustees so to classify the school as to seat both boys and girls in the same apartment. This action met with decided disapproval from a large number of the patrons. A special meeting of the district was held February 14, 1852, at which the following resolution was offered, viz. :

Resolved, That the classification of this school by the late trustees, in placing the males and females in the same department, was inexpedient for this school.

Free discussion and criticism were indulged in, but the trustees having previously resigned, the resolution was finally withdrawn. Three new trustees were at once elected to the vacancies, who speedily restored the school to its previous condition, and for many years the distinction of sex was rigidly observed.

In the following year an appropriation of \$300 was made to improve the building in Canal Village, which was then in a dilapidated condition, and, with slight repairs, so continued until the present substantial structure was erected, at the corner of James and Ridge streets, in 1868. This was the outgrowth of the pressing necessities of a rapidly increasing population in that part of the village, and of a public sentiment which had first found expression at an annual school meeting of the district in 1858, ten years previous.

No marked change is again noticed until the winter of 1860 and 1861. The sentiment in favor of free schools had then become so general, and their necessity so apparent, that a large number of citizens advocated the abolition of the rate bill system, and the immediate establishment of free schools, with an academic department for the entire village, to be generously supported by public tax. Prominent among those who were actively interested in this movement were Edward Huntington, A. Sanford, H. O. Southworth, B. J. Beach, A. J. Bailey, D. E. Wager, K. Carroll, and Samuel Wardwell.

At the annual school meeting of the district, in 1861, a system of free schools was warmly advocated by parties above named, and many others. A committee was appointed to perfect a plan for the proposed change, to be presented for approval, at an adjourned meeting. Meetings were adjourned from time to time until December 18, 1861, when a series of resolutions was offered, and the draft of the proposed act of the Legislature presented, by Mr. Southworth, looking to the immediate establishment of free schools. The opposition was strong in the belief that school expenditures would be largely increased under the provisions of the proposed law, and, after much filibustering, finally succeeded in adjourning the meeting for one month. No further record was made showing any action whatever in the same direction, the adjourned meeting having been seemingly abandoned. In fact, no record exists from October 15, 1867, until the 24th day of June, 1869. Then a

demand for a change in the system of public schools in the village found expression in a "Citizens' Call" for a public meeting at the court house, to consider the "expediency of establishing a union free school, with an academical department, within the limits of District No. 5, of the town of Rome." This was signed by forty four of the leading citizens and the trustees. "A large and enthusiastic meeting convened at the time appointed and free expressions of opinion were solicited. To further the interests of the proposed change, and secure a larger attendance of the friends of the measure, the meeting was adjourned, on motion of E. L. Stevens, to meet at the court house, July 3, 1869, at seven and a half o'clock P. M. The friends of free schools rallied in such numbers at the adjourned meeting that, immediately upon the reading and correction of the minutes of the previous meeting, the following resolution, offered by Mr. K. Carroll, was adopted by the decisive vote of 310 to 49, viz.:

Resolved, That a union free school be established within the bounds of School District No. 5, in the town of Rome, pursuant to the provisions of chapter 555 of the laws of 1864, and the amendments thereto."

The following gentlemen were then elected trustees, to act as a board of education for the district, viz.: Stephen Van Dresar, John Reifert, Zaccheus Hill, Edward Huntington, R. E. Sutton, and H. O. Southworth. The following resolution was then adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Education of this union free school district be and they are hereby authorized to adopt the academy, located in said district, as the academical department of said district, with the consent of the trustees of said academy, pursuant to section 24 of title 9, chapter 555 of the laws of 1864.

On the 16th day of July, 1869, the following resolution was passed by the Board of Trustees of Rome Academy, viz.:

Resolved, That we consent that the Board of Education of Union Free School District No. 5, in the town of Rome, may adopt the academy as the academical department of said school district.

In conformity to this resolution, and on the same day, the academy

property, consisting of a building and lot on James street, philosophical and chemical apparatus, cabinet and library, was transferred to the Board of Education by a quit-claim deed executed by the following gentlemen, acting as a board of trustees, viz.: Samuel Wardwell, J. M. Sturdevant, H. O. Southworth, A. H. Brainerd, Henry M. Lawton, S. B. Roberts, C. W. Elmer, H. D. Spencer, R. E. Sutton, R. T. Walker, and George Merrill.

The academy lot was originally the gift of Dominick Lynch in the interest of education, to be forever occupied by a building devoted to that purpose.

July 17, 1869, the Board of Education, having been duly organized, July 9, 1869, by the election of S. Van Dresar, president, and R. E. Sutton, clerk, adopted the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That the Rome Academy be and the same is hereby adopted as the academic department of this Union Free School District, a union school having been duly established under the provisions of title 9 of chapter 555, of the laws of 1864.

Thus virtually ended the struggle in behalf of free schools. The old rate-bill was abolished, and the schools were opened in the fall of 1869 upon the broad and catholic basis of free education to all.

The academy opened with an enrollment of 97 pupils in 1869, which has rapidly increased to more than 200 in 1877, with advantages for a still larger number. From this point there has been steady and rapid growth in the various directions which indicate prosperity.

In 1870 the Liberty Street school building was thoroughly repaired, and in September of that year the first and second floors were occupied for school purposes, the third floor having been abandoned as dangerous in case of fire or accident. In January, 1871, the Thomas street building was first occupied, having been erected and furnished during the previous year. In 1872, to secure increased facilities, at moderate expense, the academy was thoroughly repaired, and the seating capacity increased to accommodate 200 pupils. In the fall of the same year the schools were reorganized. The advanced pupils of the Liberty

street school were transferred to the academy, and relief was thus afforded to the crowded condition of the lower departments. In 1874 the Vogt property, on the east side of South James street, was purchased, and the inside of the building remodeled, and put in thorough repair for school purposes. In September, 1874, the building was first occupied by two teachers and 122 pupils. In January, 1875, the new building on Third street, in East Rome, was opened, and the old one on Dominick street passed into the hands of the common council for fire department purposes. In 1876 the West Rome building was repaired and improved, and new seats were added for the accommodation of eighty pupils.

Continuing this complete account of the city schools down to that year, it must be stated that in 1878 a new brick school building was erected on the corner of Thomas and Jay streets at a cost of about \$8,000. It was fitted for two departments, primary and intermediate. In the summer of 1895 a brick addition was built on the Jay street school costing about \$5,500. In 1891 the Liberty street school was enlarged by opening and fitting the top floor of the building for 7th and 8th grade scholars. A fireproof tower was erected from which to reach this floor. In 1890 a dwelling was purchased on South James street in which a second school on that street was opened.

The departments now comprise the primary of three years; the intermediate of two years; grammar of two years; preparatory of one year, and academic, four years. To these has been added a special course for students who intend to teach.

The report of October 1895, shows the following census of school children: First ward, 627; Second ward, 469; Third ward, 654; Fourth ward, 554; Fifth ward, 646. Total, 2,950.

The present superintendent is W. D. Manro, who assumed the office August 1, 1893. He is a native of Auburn, N. Y., and was born June 27, 1864; was educated in the Auburn High School, Phillips Acad-

emy at Andover, Mass., and Yale University, where he graduated in 1888.

The present value of the school property is \$105,000. There are enrolled in the city 2,916 persons between the ages of five and twenty-one years. The whole number of those who attended school in 1895 was 1,926; of these 192 were in the academy and 398 in private schools. The Board of Education for 1895-96 consists of Dr. T. M. Flandrau, Edward Comstock, William R. Huntington, Albert H. Golley, Jerome Graves, and William H. Van Wagenen. Dr. Flandrau is president of the board and William R. Huntington, clerk. The following is a complete list of the teachers for the year beginning September 3, 1895:

Academy.—Wayland E. Stearns, principal; Marie E. George, Sara Abell Beers, M. Delle Turtelot, Marion J. Clarke, Helen Elizabeth Thalman, Christine D. Ross.

Liberty Street School.—R. H. Barringer, principal; Edith M. Wolfe, Anna Catlin, Adella S. Clark, Elizabeth C. McGuinness, Harriet L. Clark, Mary E. Dean, Annie R. Bielby, Ella Van Dresar, Avis Le Roi.

Thomas Street School.—Anna E. Cross, principal; Cora M. Wright, Ella R. Hook, Anna M. Freer, Nora M. Doyle, Hattie L. Rowley.

James Street School.—Mary L. Buck, principal; Hattie May Fox, Susie C. Aldridge, Georgianna Wheeler, Emily J. Kimball.

South James Street School.—Frances G. Henderson, principal; Mary E. Dietrich.

Jay Street School.—Sarah E. Parry, principal; Clara M. Ninde, Lena May Putnam, Elizabeth Westcott Clarke, Minnie L. France, Mary Cummings.

East Rome School.—William Thorn Kennedy, principal; Minnie F. Wood.

West Rome School.—Jennie E. McAdam.

Supervisor of Vocal Music.—Marion E. Davison.



C. D. PRESCOTT.

Supervisor of Penmanship and Drawing.—Emma Sabine.

Elocution Teacher.—Lillian M. Gilligan.

Following is a list of the members of the Board of Education of Rome, as elected each year since the incorporation of the city :

1869.—H. O. Southworth, Edward Huntington, one year; R. E. Sutton, John Reiffert, two years; S. Van Dresar, Z. Hill, three years.

1870.—Edward Huntington, Henry Patrick.

1871.—H. Patrick, (Calvert Comstock, to fill vacancy), John Reiffert.

1872.—S. Van Dresar, Z. Hill.

1873.—Calvert Comstock, B. Whitman Williams.

1874.—John Reiffert, James Aiken.

1875.—Jerome Graves, G. Harrison Lynch.

1876.—B. Whitman Williams, Edward L. Stevens.

1877.—James Aiken, John Reiffert.

1878.—Harvey L. Bedell, Harrison Jacobs.

1879.—A. C. Kessinger, H. M. Lawton.

1880.—John S. Baker, Griffith W. Jones.

1881.—Calvin West, Cyrus D. Prescott.

1882.—James C. Smith, Henry G. Wright.

1883.—Jerome Graves, E. Stuart Williams.

1884.—Richard E. Sutton, Thomas M. Flandrau.

1885.—William R. Huntington, C. Sherman Smith.

1886.—E. Stuart Williams, Jerome Graves.

1887.—Richard E. Sutton, Thomas M. Flandrau.

1888.—Charles S. Smith, William R. Huntington.

1889.—Jerome Graves. E. Stuart Williams.

1890.—Richard E. Sutton, Thomas M. Flandrau.

1891.—Cyrus D. Prescott, Harvey S. Bedell.

1892.—Jerome Graves, William H. Van Wagenen.

1893.—Thomas M. Flandrau, Albert H. Golley.

1894.—Edward Comstock, William R. Huntington.

1895.—Jerome Graves, William H. Van Wagenen.

1896.—Full board, Thomas M. Flandrau, Albert H. Golley, Edward Comstock, William R. Huntington (secretary), Jerome Graves, W. H. Van Wagenen. W. D. Manro, superintendent.

CHAPTER XV.

RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS.

The First Religious Society.—According to the first census in 1800, the population in that year of the whole town of Rome was 1,479. We have no means of ascertaining the number in the village, but presume the population was about 300. Prior to the year above named there was no church organization or religious society in Rome. On Thursday, September 25, 1800 (as the record shows) articles of association, or covenant of Christian fellowship and confession of faith, were signed by the following four persons: Joshua Hathaway, Ebenezer Wright and Grace his wife, and Daniel W. Knight. The document was probably drawn up by Mr. Hathaway. This was the first germ or nucleus of the first religious society in Rome. On Sunday, September 23, 1800, a religious meeting was held, and, as tradition says, in a ball room of a tavern which then stood on a corner of the highway in Wright Settlement leading to "Canterbury Hill," and near the later residence of Henry L. Kirkland. Rev. Simon Waterman of Plymouth, Conn., was present and officiated. At that meeting the above four persons again signified their consent to the covenant and confession of faith, above mentioned, and the following nine additional persons also signified their assent thereto: Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Solomon Rich, Mrs. Hathaway, Mrs. Peter Colt, Mrs. Colbraith, Mrs. Gilbert, and Mrs. Hayes, making thirteen in all. The Rev. Simon Waterman, then present, as the records state, "declared the foregoing persons thus congregated, a church of Christ, and in a very solemn, serious and affecting manner administered the sacrament of the Lord's Supper." Mr. Hathaway was elected scribe. A continuous abstract

of the records reads as follows: "January 24, 1802, Mrs. Edes was admitted a member of this church, and was baptized. Attest J. Hathaway, scribe. Mrs. Church was admitted, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Jervis and wife. J. Hathaway, scribe. June 3, 1804, were baptized by Mr. Ely, Daniel Whitman, son of Colonel W. D. Knight, and Betsey Jervis, daughter of Timothy Jervis. Mary Ann, daughter of J. Hathaway, baptized by Rev. Mr. Clarkson, June, 1805. Septembor 16, 1804, Anna and Henrietta Desire, children of Henry Huntington, presented by his wife. February 17, 1805, Hannah, wife of George Huntington, made a public profession of her faith and received baptism. Likewise baptized Hannah, Thomas and Mary Mumford, children of the said Huntington. March 3, 1805, baptized Benjamin Huntington, and Matthew, children of Matthew Brown, presented by his wife, who at the same time made public profession of her faith."

This religious society being the first organized in Rome called itself "The First Religious Society in the Town of Rome," and took that as its corporate name, and which is the corporate name now.

The first election of trustees took place January 11, 1802, as follows: Daniel W. Knight, one year; John White, one year; Benjamin Wright, two years; Oliver Smith, two years; Clark Putnam, three years. To become legally incorporated, the laws passed April 6, 1784, and March 27, 1801, required certain formalities to be followed, which it does not appear this society complied with, so on June 23, 1806, another election of trustees took place and the following persons were elected: D. W. Knight, three years; Samuel Dill, three years; Gideon Butts, two years; Jonathan Tallcott, one year; John W. Bloomfield, one year. A certificate of such election was recorded in the Oneida county clerk's office, June 30, 1806 (as it appeared by the records). This certificate states that after two weeks' previous notice of such meeting, the meeting was held June 23, 1806, "at the school house near the gaol, where public devine worship is

statedly held," etc., and that "said society shall be called and known as the First Religious Society in the town of Rome."

In 1813 another law was passed, providing for the incorporation of religious societies, and this society, for some reason or other, took steps to be again incorporated under the latter law, taking the same corporate name as before. Accordingly on the 10th of August, 1813, a meeting of the adult male members was held at the meeting house of the society, and elected for trustees W. M. Talcott, William Wright, Gideon Butts, Elijah Worthington and Chester Hayden. A certificate of incorporation, witnessed by Wheeler Barnes and Cyrus Davenport, and acknowledged before Judge Charles Wylie, was made out and recorded August 13, 1813, and which fixed the legal status of that society.

The first deacon elected was D. W. Knight, November 24, 1807. There was no regular pastor settled over this society during the first six years of its existence. There must have been, however, preaching quite frequently, for we have before us three original subscription lists, much worn and faded, yet the signatures are legible, under which funds were raised to pay the clergyman. The first subscription paper is without date, but states that "the subscribers agree and promise to pay to the First Religious Society in Rome, such sums as are set opposite our respective names, and for the use and to be applied for the express purpose of supporting and maintaining a clergyman for said society for the year ensuing." This paper must have been drawn up and signed in 1801, or the very first of the year 1802, for upon the margin opposite the name of one of the signers is written "January 11, 1802, paid 64 (shillings). August 31, paid 68 shillings," etc. This subscription list amounts to \$212, and is as follows: George Huntington & Company, \$22; Joshua Hathaway, \$10; John Barnard, \$12; Thomas Gilbert, \$4; M. & M. Brown, jr., \$8; Benjamin Wright, \$8; Clark Putnam, \$5; Oliver Smith, \$5; Thomas Selden, \$2; James Bartlett, \$5; William Johnson (written on margin, "in judgment") \$1;

Benjamin Raymond, \$5 ; Gideon Selden (written on margin, "in judgment") \$4 ; Amos Jefferson, \$5 ; Timothy Jervis, \$8 ; Parker Halleck, \$3 ; Daniel W. Knight, \$3 ; Samuel Edes, \$2 ; Charles Wylie, \$3 ; Philip Filer, \$2 ; Thomas Brackney, \$2 ; Michael Frost, \$3 ; Thomas Walker, \$3 ; James Barrow, \$7.50 ; Elijah Ranney, \$2 ; Rufus Easton, \$3 ; Stephen White, \$5 ; John B. Pease, \$2 ; James Simpson, \$2.50 ; Oliver Greenwood, \$3 ; Eliakim Hammond, \$1 ; Abraham Hanford, \$2 ; Moses Wright, \$3 ; Ebenezer Baker, \$1 ; Elijah Baker, \$5 ; (on the margin opposite the above two names is written, "paid by employing Mr. Morey one day to preach") ; John White, \$2 ; Asa Bushnell, \$1 ; Ezekiel Thayer, \$1 ; Ebenezer Wright, \$4 ; Isaac Lathrop, \$1 ; Allyn Wright, \$2 ; Silas Perkins, \$1 ; Gurdon Smith, \$3 ; Caleb Rennels (on margin "in judgment"), \$1 ; Elijah Clark, \$3 ; Stephen Welton, \$3 ; Ebenezer Wright, jr., \$4 ; Cornelius Van Wormer, \$2 ; Israel Denio, \$1 ; Solomon Rich, \$3 ; Moses Fish, \$2 ; John Wright, \$1 ; Zaccheus Abel, \$2 ; Phillip King, \$3. Total \$212.

The next subscription paper bears date January 5, 1803, and is to pay for clergyman for the ensuing year and says: "The payments to be made in wheat, pork or money, and payable one-fourth part every three months after date."

The next subscription bears date August 6, 1803, and expresses to be "for the purpose of employing a clergyman to preach in the said society agreeable to a vote of a meeting held August 5th."

The names of the clergymen who officiated prior to 1806 were Revs. Simons, March, Knight and Taggert.

In 1806 Rev. Moses Gillett, a graduate of Yale College, commenced his labors in this society, and on Wednesday, October 14, 1807, was installed as pastor. The church was not then completed, and the work bench was used for pulpit, and temporary seats were brought in. The services were at eleven A. M., and as the records show the following ministers officiated, viz.: Rev. Oliver Wetmore made the opening

prayer. Rev. James Eels, of Westmoreland, preached the sermon from I Timothy, 4, 16. Rev. Eliphalet Steele made the ordaining prayer. Rev. James Southworth, of Bridgewater, gave the charge. Rev. Israel Brainard, of Verona, gave the right hand of fellowship, and Rev. James Carnahan, of Utica (afterward president of Princeton College in New Jersey), the concluding prayer.

The society was then composed of the following members: Matthew Brown and Molly, his wife; Ebenezer Wright and Grace, his wife; Gideon Butts and Anna, his wife; Joshua Hathaway and Elizabeth, his wife; Timothy Jarvis and Phebe, his wife; Hazel Strickland and Chloe, his wife; Samuel Dealing and Betsey, his wife; Daniel W. Knight; Amos Jepherson and Sarah, his wife; Sara Colt, wife of Peter Colt; wife of John W. Bloomfield; Philomelia, wife of Benjamin Wright; Zelpha, wife of Thomas Gilbert; Elizabeth, wife of Stephen Hayes; Jane, wife of Thomas Selden; Esther, widow of William Colbraith; Polly, wife of Samuel Edes; Sally, wife of Thomas Moore; Solomon Rich and his wife; Emma Dilla, wife of Ephraim Church; Jonathan Covel; thirty in all.

When Mr. Gillett commenced his labors in 1806, the society had no church edifice. The meetings were held principally in the public school house, which then stood on the southeast corner of the West Park. Occasionally meetings of the society were held in the store of George Huntington & Co., and sometimes, as tradition says, they were held in the barn of Seth Ranney, and sometimes in the ball room of the building where Rev. Dr. Stryker resided, that being then a hotel.

After Mr. Gillett commenced his labors here, the society felt as if an edifice was needed, and accordingly in December, 1806, a subscription paper, bearing date the 30th of that month, was started. That original document is in the hand writing of George Huntington and commences as follows: "Whereas, the inhabitants of the First Religious Society in the town of Rome have agreed to build a church or

meeting house, either on the lot situated on the westerly side and adjoining the public square in the village of Rome, or on a lot situated on the easterly side and adjoining said square, and that the subscribers, at a meeting duly warned, shall determine on which of said lots the meeting house shall be erected; the said meeting house to be of the dimensions of 42 feet by 55 feet, to be constructed and finished according to a draft or plan drawn by Benjamin Wright, esq., the building committee that shall be appointed, to have the power to alter the plan of said meeting house as to dispense with the inside pillars. They may also vary the plan of finishing as they may judge expedient to save expense, or to render the building more useful or convenient to the society."

Then follows an agreement to pay the sums subscribed, one-fourth on the first day of June, September, December, 1807, and February, 1808, for the purpose of purchasing of Dominick Lynch the lot to be designated, and for erecting and finishing said building. The committee not to proceed until the sum is subscribed which they think sufficient to finish it or until said trustees shall have a full and unincumbered title to the lot. And to induce large subscriptions it is agreed that, "as soon as may be after the erection and completion of said meeting house, the trustees shall offer for sale to the highest bidder at public vendue, the right to the pews respectively, subject to such rents, restrictions, conditions and regulations as said trustees shall direct," etc

The lot was purchased for \$180, and the deed for the same is on parchment, "indented," and bears date August 24, 1807, and is from Dominick Lynch and Jane, his wife, to "The Trustees of the First Religious Society of Rome." The lot is 198 feet on Court street and 200 feet deep.

There being a deficiency in the foregoing subscription, another paper was drawn up bearing date May 11, 1808, by which the required sum was raised.



C. C. REID, M. D.

After Mr. Gillett's resignation the pulpit was supplied by Revs. D. Cary, B. W. Dwight, and E. O. Dunning, each acting only a short period. March 10, 1841, Rev. Selden Haines was installed pastor.

On the 12th of January, 1831, a second church was organized and Rev. Jacob Heffenstein was installed its pastor. He was succeeded by Rev. Avelyn Sedgwick, August, 1833; Rev. Theodore Spencer, May, 1837; Rev. Herman Norton, September, 1838; Rev. Benjamin H. Campbell, March, 1840; Rev. Charles Jones, July, 1841; Rev. George S. Boardman, July, 1843, who continued until 1846. After this long period of usefulness, it was determined for financial reasons to unite these two churches. To facilitate this measure the pastors of the two, Revs. Haines and Boardman, resigned and the union was effected June 12, 1847. The church building of the second society on Washington street was sold to the Welsh Methodists. The united church was supplied during the vacancy in the pastorate by Revs. George C. Lucas, George Bushnell, and W. F. Williams. August 2, 1848, Rev. William E. Knox was installed. The present house of worship was dedicated January 19, 1853. Rev. Dr. Knox resigned his charge November 5, 1869, after which the pulpit was supplied nine months by Rev. Howard Kingsbury. Rev. Peter Stryker, D. D., began his labors as pastor in October, 1870, and was installed November 16, following. He was succeeded by the present pastor, Rev. Dr. James H. Taylor. The membership of the church is nearly 500.

The Baptist Church.—Following is an extract from the records of this church :

In the summer and autumn of the year of our Lord 1817, several of the members of the different Baptist churches, residing in Rome and its vicinity, became impressed with the idea that it would promote the declarative glory of God, the honor of the Redeemer's kingdom, and their own happiness, if God, in His providence, should so order as to have a church formed amongst them.

A conference was accordingly held at Wright Settlement on October 23, 1817, and the result was, as stated, "that there appeared to be ground to build upon, and material with which to build, without interfering with any other church or society." Other meetings and councils were held and on December 10, 1817, it was voted, "to give the brothers and sisters fellowship as a sister church, in token of which Elder Elon Galusha, in behalf of the council, gave the right hand of fellowship."

The society thus formed consisted of seventeen members, over whom Elder Dyer Starks became the first pastor and continued several years. Following him were Elders Jacobs and Douglass, and David Morris, of whom the latter continued ten years. The pastors since have been John Gibbs, Emerson Andrews, H. C. Vogell, David Bellamy, J. W. Harris, and H. H. Peabody, who assumed the charge in 1870. For more than twenty-five years he has faithfully and successfully ministered to his flock. The corner stone of the first church edifice was laid September 13, 1826, and for more than forty years after its completion meetings were there held. The corner stone of the present handsome stone structure was laid September 13, 1872; it is built of Potsdam sandstone.

Zion Church (Episcopal).—A meeting was held at the court house in Rome August 15, 1825, at which Rev. Algernon S. Hollister was chairman, and Hiram Denio, secretary. There an act of incorporation was drawn and a society organized under the name of Zion Church, Rome. Jay Hathaway and Henry Hayden were chosen wardens, and Numa Leonard, Hiram Denio, Horatio N. Carr, James B. Read, James A. Canfield, Richard Butler, and Peter White, vestrymen. Rev. Mr. Hollister took pastoral charge of the society and preached in the court house during the ensuing year. The original communicants were Mr. Butler, Mr. Canfield and Miss A. L. Hathaway. The lower story of the Masonic Hall, corner of Washington and Liberty streets, was soon

engaged for the use of the church for eight years. At the opening of this chapel on a Sunday early in 1826, Rev. Marcus A. Perry preached, and the next day Rt. Rev. John Henry Hobart, bishop of the diocese, which then included the whole of this State, preached in the chapel, confirmed fourteen persons, and baptized two children. Mr. Perry assumed charge of the congregation August 1, 1826, and preached one year alternately with Holland Patent. Zion church Sunday school was organized June 3, 1827, with Rev. M. A. Perry in charge. Thirty-five scholars were in attendance, and the teachers were Jay Hathaway, M. Rowley, and L. Hathaway for boys, and A. L. Hathaway, R. Judd, A. Gates, and M. Healy for girls.

It seems that although Rev. Mr. Perry was at first engaged for only one year, his services were continued here until some time in 1832, when he resigned, and was succeeded by Rev. George Fiske. In 1833 the Rome Lodge, the lower story of which had been in use as a chapel, was purchased, the building enlarged and fitted up for a church, and opened for divine services on Sunday, July 25, 1833, with a sermon by Rev. Parker Adams, of New Hartford. The church was consecrated the 15th of the following August, by Bishop Benjamin T. Onderdonk, successor to Bishop Hobart. The rectors at this time preached under a missionary stipend, and in September, 1834, Rev. William W. Niles was accepted by the society to share the stipend with Mr. Fisk, and alternate with him in holding services at Rome and Oriskany. Mr. Fiske resigned in the following December, and Mr. Niles assumed sole charge. The rectors since have been the Rev. Nathan B. Burgess, from November, 1836, to November, 1839; Rev. Hobart Williams, deacon; Rev. Henry Lockwood, from November, 1840, to May 10, 1842; Rev. Stephen Battin, June, 1842, and ordained priest December 19, 1843; Rev. Seth Davis, April 1, 1845, resigned October 4, 1845, to establish a school at Buffalo; succeeded by Rev. Almon Gregory, who remained till November, 1849; Rev. Henry B. Whipple, December 2, 1849, to

1857; he was a portion of the time in Florida, on account of ill health, and during his absence his place was supplied by Rev. Gordon M. Bradley. Mr. Whipple resigned March 10, 1857, to accept a call from Chicago. He was succeeded by Rev. N. Barrows, who resigned March 5, 1864. The next pastor was Rev. Hugh L. M. Clarke, who assumed charge May 1, 1864, and continued until the pastorate was assumed by Rev. John H. Egar, D. D., on February 1, 1881.

During the rectorship of Mr. Whipple the lot on the corner of Liberty and Washington streets was purchased, and the corner-stone of the present stone church laid September 5, 1850. The new edifice was opened for service on Sunday, August 16, 1851, and consecrated by Bishop De Lancey, September 25, of the same year. During the summer of 1867 the church was enlarged to its present dimensions, at a cost of nearly \$10,000.

In 1885 a beautiful memorial hall was erected of stone at a cost including site of \$11,000 in memory of Rev. Mr. Clarke. A beautiful memorial pulpit was built in 1892, in memory of the late John Stryker and his wife, Elizabeth. A new organ was placed in the church in 1893. The membership of the church is now about 400.

St. Peter's (Catholic) Church.—This church was organized through the influence of Rev. Father William Beecham, who came to Utica in December, 1836, as assistant to Father Walter J. Quarter. In about nine months afterwards he was sent to administer to the spiritual wants of the Catholics living in the northern and southern portions of Oneida county and surrounding territory. He selected Rome as being easy of access from the different points of his large mission. As one result of his labors he began the erection of the old St. Peter's church in 1838. When he took charge of this mission there were not ten Catholic families in what is now the city of Rome. The church edifice was completed in 1840. Father Beecham's pastorate extended over a period of forty years and until his death, March 10, 1876. He was

succeeded by Rev. Father A. Murphy, the present pastor, in April, 1876. For twenty years past he has faithfully ministered to the church and his labors have been crowned with success. Three years ago, in 1893, the building of the new and magnificent stone edifice on James street was begun. It is nearly completed and will cost about \$150,000. In connection with this church the Sisters of the Holy Name of Jesus teach a select school, and St. Peter's school for boys is also connected with this society, the old church being used for the purpose.

St. Mary's Catholic Church.—The first missionary priests of the German Catholics visited this section in 1845. During the year 1847 the first steps were taken towards providing a house of worship and in 1848 the humble wooden structure on the corner of James and Depeyster streets was ready for service. The first resident pastor was Rev. Florian Schwenninger. In 1871 the premises occupied by the present church on the north side of Liberty street were secured and the corner stone was laid on the 18th of May, 1871. The edifice cost over \$20,000. In the following year a peel of three bells was blessed for the church. The pastor is Rev. Michael Rieger, who succeeded Rev. P. J. Smith in 1896. Mr. Smith had been with the church about twenty years. There are about 130 families in the congregation and a school is maintained by the Sisters of Mercy.

The First Methodist Church.—The First Methodist society or class in the town of Rome was formed in 1799 on the Turin road about three miles north of Rome village. To Jonathan Newniam belongs the honor of being the first Methodist preacher to labor in Rome; he probably preached here as early as 1791. Rome was undoubtedly a part of the Mohawk Circuit until that disappeared, when it became part of the Western Circuit. Among the names of preachers who traveled and preached occasionally in this and adjoining towns are found those of Bishop Whatcoat, Lorenzo Dow, Charles Giles, Ebenezer White, Bishop Asbury, Peter Vanness Benjamin G. Paddock. In

the year 1812 Rome, Western, Floyd, Lee and Steuben were made into a two weeks circuit and Charles Giles was the preacher. In 1814 Mr. Giles was made presiding elder of the Oneida district, embracing the counties of Oneida, Otsego, Herkimer, Oswego, Jefferson and St. Lawrence. From 1814 onward twelve or fourteen years the following preachers labored in this and adjoining towns: Joseph Willis, George Harmon, B. G. Paddock, William Chase, Zachariah Paddock, Ephraim Hall, Asa Cummins, John Arnold and John E. Kenbrack. The first Methodist house of worship has been described as "a little building" on the Turin road; it may have been a barn or deserted dwelling. In 1803 the society moved to the Ridge and all the Methodists joined there in worship. In the village of Rome a class was formed some time before 1820, its headquarters in a school room upstairs two doors from the American block. In 1828 Lyman Beach was appointed to the circuit which included Rome, and in 1829 Rome was made a station with Mr. Beach in charge. In the mean time in 1824 a church edifice had been begun, located near the court house; this edifice was dedicated on New Year's day, 1829, its completion having been effected only after great effort. There the society worshiped forty years, though it was enlarged in 1850. When in the course of time and following upon some remarkable revivals, the old church became inadequate, the present brick edifice was planned, erected and dedicated September 24, 1869. It cost about \$45,000 and more than \$17,000 were subscribed on the day of its dedication. Since the pastorate of Rev. Lyman Beach before mentioned, the following pastors have served this church successively: Andrew Peck, Charles Giles, Isaac Stone, Calvin Danforth, Albert D. Peck, Nathaniel Salisbury, V. M. Coryette, E. W. R. Allen, Aaron Adams, Isaac L. Hunt, W. W. Ninde, John Alley, Hiram Matteson, George Lawyer, F. H. Stanton, James Irwin, L. D. Stebbins, Burenius Holmes, J. P. Jennings, T. Spicer, I. S. Bingham, B. S. Wright, W. X. Ninde, J. B. Foote, Wes-

ley Mason, S. R. Fuller, C. P. Hard, M. D. Kinney, William Searles, F. H. Hemmenway, F. Widmer, William H. Reese, Geo. M. Mead, C. W. Parsons, Thomas B. Shepard, M. R. Webster, and David S. Pierce, who came in 1892.

Upon the formal organization of this society, which took place January 15, 1821, the following were elected trustees: Oliver Greenwood, Preston H. Grover, Joshua Hathaway, Stephen White, George Walsworth, Jeremiah Steves, and William Penfield. The second election of trustees did not take place until 1824. The building committee in charge of the erection of the present edifice were N. B. Foot, chairman; A. Sandford, secretary; A. H. Brainerd, superintendent; L. E. Elmer, treasurer; Rev. M. D. Kinney, J. D. Ely, W. Dennison, W. A. Caswell, R. M. Bingham, A. Spencer and C. W. Elmer.

Liberty Street Methodist Church (formerly Court Street Church).—A mission of the Methodist church was organized in 1863, which was formed into a society in the following year. The first pastor was Rev. P. H. Wilds. He was succeeded down to 1878 by Rev. F. H. Beck, R. Redhead, William Jerome, Daniel O. Edgerton, J. Zimmerman, Robert Flint, Joseph H. Lamb. For reasons that cannot be detailed here, this society in 1879, made a change of its church property on Court street, which had been built in 1870, with the society of the Welsh Congregationalist society, whose church was situated on Liberty street, between George and Madison.

Free Methodist Church.—This church was organized about 1870, and occupies a building which was erected by the Embargo Street M. E. society, organized in 1855 and disbanded. The society also owns a parsonage. The present pastor is O. N. Frink.

The Wesleyan Methodist Church of Rome was organized about ten years ago and built a frame church three years later. The society has prospered since. There is also the Grace Union A. M. E. Church for colored persons which maintains regular services.

The Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Church was organized in 1847 and formerly occupied a frame building used still earlier by the Second Congregational society. A few years since a new brick edifice was erected on North Washington street. Rev. R. Williams is pastor

St. Joseph's German Protestant Episcopal Church.—Prior to 1848 the twenty or more German Catholic families living in Canal Village met once in two weeks in a room in the old Mansion House for worship in their faith. Some time in 1840 these families effected an organization under the name, "St. Mary's Church," purchased a lot on the corner of South James and De Peyster streets and built a church costing \$900. Owing to internal differences over a site for a new church in 1870-71, a large part of the congregation formed a new society called St. Joseph's Church, consisting of about 130 families. The site for the church on Ridge street was purchased April 22, 1871, for \$7,500, and the corner stone of the new edifice was laid July 27, 1871, by the pastor, Rev. Bernhardt Werner. On St John's day, December 27, 1876, the congregation transferred their allegiance from the Roman Catholic to the Anglican, or the Protestant Episcopal Church. Services are held in both German and English, and the congregation is prospering under the ministrations of Rev. A. L. Byron-Curtiss, who began his labor here in 1895.

Trinity Church, (German Lutheran).—This society was organized in 1848. The church edifice was erected in 1853, in which year the society was incorporated. The first pastor was Rev. Mr. Wetzell. The pastors since 1878 have been Rev. H. Veith, Rev. A. Thiele, 1879; Rev. J. Schaefer, 1880-84; Rev. P. A. Moelling, 1884-87; Rev. O. T. Ebert, 1887-90; Rev. J. C. Nestel, 1890-93; G. Meisenhelder, present incumbent. There are about eighty-five voting members. In the spring of 1893 the church was rebuilt at a cost of about \$3,400. In 1891 the congregation became a member of the German Evangelical Synod of North America.



JOSEPH I. SAYLES.

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church.—This society was organized in 1869, and soon afterward the present frame church was erected on North Madison street. Rev. Charles A. Wiegel has been pastor of the church for the past twenty years.

Welsh Congregational Church.—This church has been alluded to in the description of the Court Street M. E. church. The members met originally with the Welsh Methodists, but an organization was effected in this faith and in 1879 the exchange for the Court street church property was consummated. Services are held in both the Welsh and English languages. Rev. D. E. Pritchard was pastor many years and was succeeded by Rev. M. M. Hughes, the present incumbent.

A Seventh Day Advent society was organized in 1876, and the church was built in the next year. The membership is about eighty and Elder A. E. Place is pastor.

The First Universalist Church.—This society was organized about 1837 and held its meetings a number of years in the court house. The Masonic Hall building, which was refitted for an Episcopal church, was purchased by the Universalists in 1851. At about that time the first settled pastor, Rev. Richard Eddy, was installed over the congregation. Among the early members of the congregation were E. B. Armstrong, Samuel B. Stevens, Mr. Yale, B. B. Hyde, Shubael Smith and wife, Charles Leffingwell, Woodman Kimball and family, John P. Allen, and others. During a part of the later years the society has not had regular preaching, and at the present time the pulpit is occupied by Rev. Lorenzo D. Case, a student who will become the settled pastor at the close of his studies.

Young Men's Christian Association.—This association was founded and incorporated in June, 1872, Edward Huntington being chosen president of the provisional organization. After some delay rooms were opened on the corner of Washington and Dominick streets, and in July, 1872, H. S. Ninde was chosen secretary. From that year until

1892, a period of twenty years, he gave his best efforts to the prosperity of the association, and was successful in the work. At first two rooms were sufficient for the association, but later a gymnasium was added and two or three rooms on the third floor for class rooms. Seven years later when more commodious apartments were necessary they were found in the Arlington block, on the third floor, and included a hall seating 200. These rooms were used three years, when the present building on James street was purchased for \$10,500, and about \$4,000 in finishing the building, and adding the fourth story. The association is now enjoying an excellent degree of prosperity. When Mr. Ninde retired as secretary he was succeeded by S. B. Kingsley, and the latter by O. S. Twist, both of whom served only short terms. On March 1, 1893, H. E. Huie succeeded to the office, with John H. Irons, assistant.

CHAPTER XVI.

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.

Rome Water Works.—After long discussion and a sharp contest a special election was held in Rome in the summer of 1871 to decide the question for or against the building of a system of water works. The vote was in favor of the project by a considerable majority. The plans decided upon were to take the water from the Mohawk River at the Ridge, about two miles from the center of the city, properly filter it and pump it into a reservoir. The machinery adopted was built by the Watertown Steam Engine Company and comprised two double action horizontal pumps with a capacity of eighty-four gallons per revolution. They were propelled by two six feet wheels of ninety horse power made by S. Adams & Son, of Rome. These wheels were used for about five years, when they were displaced by the present Helmer wheels. The first pumps continued in use thirteen years and were displaced by the present ones. No change in the capacity of either wheels or pumps was made. William N. Mott is the engineer in charge of the works, and has occupied the position from the first.

The water at the dam is forty feet higher than the surface of the ground at the corner of James and Dominick streets and it was calculated that the pressure at the city would be sixty pounds to the square inch. The water is elevated sixty-five feet into a circular reservoir twenty-one feet in depth and 297 in diameter with a capacity of 9,000,000 gallons. The original cost of these works for which bonds were issued was \$160,000; this amount was afterwards increased to \$172,000. The water was originally carried through cement pipe, but more than one-half of this has been taken out and iron pipes laid in

its place. A fourteen inch main was laid through George street and about three years ago a twenty-inch iron main was laid in James street. At the present time about 2,000 consumers use the water and the system as a whole is very effective. The superintendents of the water works have been Cyrus Hayden, C. T. Hayden, Theodore S. Comstock, and the present superintendent, H. S. Wetherbee. The water works are in charge of what is now the Water and Sewerage Commission, which at the present time consists of W. J. P. Kingsley, ex officio, chairman, John S. Baker, Harvey S. Bedell, Albert R. Kessinger, and Jonathan S. Haselton.

H. S. Wetherbee, present superintendent of the water works, is a native of Oneida county, and was formerly in the grocery business in Rome, serving afterwards in the army in the 15th Engineers. After spending five years in Wisconsin he returned to this county and was in active business until 1892, when he sold out. He was elected to the Common Council in 1891 and was appointed to his present position in April, 1895.

Fire Department.—Rome is in the fortunate possession of ample facilities for extinguishing fires and an excellent system of water works. It is not now known just how early the first fire engine was purchased, but it was early in the century, for the second one was bought in 1825 at a cost of about \$900 inclusive of some apparatus ordered at the same time. On the 6th of June, 1825, the trustees appointed a fire company of twenty members. Fire company No. 2 was formed in May, 1827, and consisted of fourteen members, to which twelve more were added in August. The Rome fire department was incorporated by the Legislature April 12, 1855. In 1866 a steam fire engine was purchased which with a large supply of hose and other apparatus cost over \$8,000. In 1867 a second steamer was purchased.

The first of these was transferred to the Rome Locomotive Works and in May, 1884, a new Silsby steamer was purchased at a cost of

\$3,400. In April, 1896, the other old engine was traded for a new Clapp & Jones steamer, and a difference paid of \$650. The present acting chief of the fire department is Leonard Briggs; assistant, A. F. Chase. The foreman of No. 1 engine is P. H. Grogan; of No. 2. Robert Oldfield; of Washington Hose Company, George Bowers; of the Hook and Ladder Company, George Clyde. Henry Powell is foreman of the engine house. The salary of the chief is \$600; assistant, \$100; foreman of the house and driver of the hose cart, \$420; driver of the hook and ladder truck, \$480; engine drivers, \$420; engineers, \$100.

Police.—Previous to the organization of the city there was no regular established police force in the place. Such officers as were from time to time selected to preserve the public peace were known as watchmen, and their duties were not very clearly defined and probably not very efficiently performed. Upon the organization of the city a police force of five members was established with David Healt as chief. He was succeeded in that office by J. G. Orcutt, George Minzer, Thomas Wilds, John Farquharson, Thomas Burns, and the present incumbent, Michael Hagerty, who has held the office since June 1, 1890. His assistant is Richard J. Smith, who succeeded William T. Binks in 1893. The remainder of the force consists of five roundsmen and two station keepers. The salary of the chief is \$65 per month; assistant, \$55; roundsmen, \$50; driver, \$40.

City Hall.—For some years prior to 1895 the Common Council met in the rooms in the opera house, where were also the offices of the city chamberlain and the recorder. In 1894 steps were taken to remedy this unsatisfactory condition by the erection of a new city hall. The city was in possession of a considerable fund, arising from 218 shares in the Rome and Clinton Railroad, amounting to about \$55,000. The sites of the old G. W. Pope dwelling and two other lots were purchased and plans were drawn for a building to cost, with the site, about \$76,000. The issue of bonds was authorized for a sum which,

with the fund on hand would reach this amount. The corner stone of the new city hall was laid October 4, 1894. It is a handsome brick and stone building and is in every way admirably adapted to its purposes.

Sewer System.—The first sewer system in Rome is now in process of establishment under a law passed March 23, 1893. That law created a Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners of the City of Rome, consisting of four members, residents of the corporation tax district, and the mayor as an ex officio member. The law also authorized the issue of bonds to an amount not exceeding \$240,000. The Stanwix Engineering Company of Rome was engaged to make a survey and map of a complete sewer system and the map has recently been completed. Contracts have been let for about \$150,000 to George S. Miller, of Ottawa, Ill. It is the purpose of the city authorities to proceed with the construction of the system as rapidly as consistent, with a view to its ultimate completion.

Street Railways.—The Rome City Street Railroad company was organized in 1887 with a capital of \$50,000. Rowland F. Hill was president; Charles W. Dayton, vice-president, and William Moores, secretary and treasurer. John S. Wardwell was chosen to the office of president in 1893. The road was opened in 1887 and comprises about six and three-fourths miles of track. It is still operated by horse power.

Cemetery.—In the year 1823 Dominick Lynch deeded to the trustees of the village of Rome a cemetery tract bounded on the east by James street, north by Bloomfield, west by Washington street, and south by an alley. In the course of years this became unfitted for its original purpose, both from the number that had been buried therein and through its location. To remedy this condition, the Rome Cemetery Association was organized August 7, 1851.

In the following year a site was selected comprising twenty-five

acres of land, which was purchased from the farm of Thomas Williams, at a cost of \$2,313.50, and Howard Daniels of New York city was employed to lay out the cemetery. On July 19, 1853, the grounds were dedicated with appropriate ceremony, since which time elaborate improvements have been made. The grounds with the addition made in recent years now comprise about forty acres. The officers of the association are W. R. Huntington, president; W. J. P. Kingsley, vice-president; H. H. Converse, secretary; S. Wardwell, treasurer; L. Cole, superintendent

Rome Gas Light Company.—This company was organized in 1852 with the following officers: Rowland S. Doty, president; Dwight E. Ray, secretary; Derrick L. Boardman, treasurer, who were also directors with Calvert Comstock, Gordon N. Bissell, E. B. Armstrong, Alva Mudge, David Utley, Robert B. Doxtater, Edward Huntington, and John Stryker. The second president of the company was E. B. Armstrong, who held the office until 1882, when he was succeeded by G. N. Bissell. Upon the death of Mr. Bissell Thomas H. Stryker was elected and is the incumbent. John G. Bissell is vice-president, and William R. Huntington, secretary and treasurer. In the year 1885 measures were adopted to introduce electricity by this company, and the city is now thus supplied. All street lamps are now electric, of which there are 158. John D. Higgins is superintendent for the company and has efficiently performed the duties of the position since 1867.

Oncida County Home.—The final report of the building committee of this institution, which committee was appointed by the Board of Supervisors March 21, 1894, contains the following paragraphs, which constitute a sufficient history of that institution since the sale of the old county alms house property, now the Custodial Asylum, to the State. The first sale of a part of that property was made in 1893 for about \$104,000; the second sale took place on May 8, 1894, for about \$105,000. The history of the old county almshouse is given in volume one of this work. We quote from the report as follows:

“ Our first instructions from the Board were to secure an option on the property known as the Bell site and report at once. In compliance with said order the committee, after organizing, visited the site and secured contract of same, which was ratified by the Board on the following day, March 22.

“ The purchase consists of 100 acres: 77 acres of clear, and 25 acres of woodland. The site is centrally located, being on the east bank of the Mohawk River, in the city of Rome; easy of access from all parts of the county. On the west is a beautiful grove extending the entire length of the west line, which serves as a protection from the winter winds, also is a pleasant retreat for the inmates during the summer. The action of the Board in selecting this beautiful site for the Oneida County Home will never be regretted. State Commissioner Hon. W. Pryor Letchworth says that institutions of this nature should be situated so as to be convenient to the public, in order that they may be more frequently visited by the benevolent and those especially interested in the care of the unfortunate. Where such visitations are frequent a faithful and intelligent official comes sooner to be appreciated; a stronger public interest is maintained in the institution, its needs are better understood, and appropriations to meet them are more likely to be granted by the Board.

“ Our first work at the site was to secure a map of the grounds, locate the buildings, distance from the street, grove, and river, line of sewer, &c. After survey and map was completed, then came the selection of materials for the buildings, style and capacity, all of which you who were members of the Board at that time, are familiar. The question of water supply, which engaged the attention of the committee—and in fact the whole Board—for a long time, was, as we believe, wisely adjusted by taking water from the city mains. (Also from an excellent well on the premises). An eight inch water main extends to the front of the Administration Building; two four inch pipes lead from



W. E. SCRIPTURE.

this main to hydrants on the right and left; a six inch main extends to the rear of the buildings, where are attached two more hydrants. Thence the water is distributed through smaller pipes to the barn, slaughter house, and water trough. Connections are also made to this six inch pipe at the boiler house and scullery, for use in the buildings.

“The main buildings are of brick, with trimmings of red sandstone and limestone. The central or Administration Building, located in front, is a three-story building, 47 by 58 feet. In the basement are located the kitchen, laundry, wash-room, and four store-rooms. On the first floor is the Superintendent’s public and private offices, reception room, operating room, and sitting rooms. The second floor contains the Superintendent’s dining room, parlor, library, and pantry, while in the third story are the sleeping rooms.

“The Superintendent’s office is connected by electric wires and tubes with important points throughout the buildings. The center or dividing line in the buildings is directly in the rear of the hall that leads from the Superintendent’s office. It is only necessary to step into this hall to occupy a commanding position. There are several other points of observation in the buildings that cover the farm, as well as the interior. In the rear of the Administration Building, and connected with it by covered ways, is the main, or service building, 44 by 129, two stories in height, with a basement that contains the main kitchen, laundry, bakery, flour room, creamery, servant’s dining room, wash-room, scullery, cooler, and pantries. On the first floor, the attendant’s sleeping rooms, six old couples’ rooms, bath and toilet rooms. Second floor—chapel, lying-in ward, nursery, and toilet rooms; also large rooms in the attic for storing supplies. The boiler house (34 by 48) and engine room (16 by 30) are in the rear of this building. The intervening walls are built of heavy quarry stone and well cemented, as a protection against accident. The cooler, $18\frac{1}{2}$ by $16\frac{1}{2}$, also scullery, $21\frac{1}{2}$ by 17, are easy of access from the main kitchen. On the east, forty feet dis-

tant from the main building, is located the woman's building, 40 by 108, and wing 40 by 56. The basement contains the inmates' dining-rooms, work room, store room, pantry, and toilet room. First floor—day rooms, convalescent room, matron's office—separate rooms—bath and toilet room. Second floor are the dormitories or sleeping apartments for the inmates, hospital and nurses' rooms. In the rear, separate rooms for attendants, bath and toilet rooms. The men's building, 40 by 118, and a wing, 40 by 56, is located on the west side of the main building, 40 feet distant. It is a counterpart of the woman's building and nearly one-third larger. In the second story of this building, in the dormitories, is built a gallery, which can be used for sleeping purposes if necessary.

“The main buildings are connected by covered corridors, enclosed with glazed sash, which may be opened or removed during the summer months. The corridors may be made the most convenient places in the building for keeping potted plants, &c. They also afford the aged inmates a pleasant place for exercise during inclement weather. They are connected to the buildings so that they may be removed very readily in case of fire.”

The various structures are adequately heated by steam, thoroughly ventilated and well lighted. The cost of the site was about \$10,000, and the total cost of buildings and site about \$140,000. The average number of inmates is now about three hundred, among whom are a number of State boarders. Louis Mittenmaier, jr., has been superintendent of the institution since January, 1895; he is a Republican in politics, held the office of supervisor of the Second ward in 1890-91, and was a member of the Board of Health three years.

Central New York Institution for Deaf Mutes.—This institution was established March 22, 1875, and has since gained a very high and extended reputation. In 1877 a building was erected on Madison street for school purposes, while eight other structures were used for

the several purposes of the institution. This unsatisfactory condition continued until 1877, when steps were taken to provide buildings especially adapted to the purposes of the institution. Through the benevolence of John B. Jervis, Benjamin Huntington and Edward Huntington a beautiful site was donated, whereon three commodious and handsome brick edifices were erected, at a cost of about \$100,000. The first of these buildings was erected in 1878, the second in 1882, and the main one in 1889. The first two are dormitories, one for boys and one for girls, with the main structure between. On the first floor of the latter are found the principal's private and public offices, a large reception room and library, and six spacious school rooms. On the second floor is a large and airy chapel occupying the whole of the center of the building, and six roomy class rooms. The arrangement of all the buildings gives what is an essential for the proper management of such an institution, namely, complete isolation of the sexes after meals and the closing of school. The principal's residence stands at the entrance of the grounds, overlooking the other buildings. In the rear and on a line with this is the hospital, wholly isolated and admirably adapted in every way to its purpose. Other buildings contain the shops, laundry, etc.

“The annual examinations under the personal supervision of the principal, began on the 20th of May last, and continued till the 10th of June, although quite severe in some cases, still the results were very satisfactory. The school is divided into four departments, viz.: (1) The academical, composed of two classes, where the pupils receive a good practical education; (2) the preparatory, where the pupils are prepared to enter the academical; (3) the intermediate, from which the pupils go into the preparatory, and (4) the primary or kindergarten, where pupils are taught the first principles, and where the foundation is laid for their future progress, and also two special classes, namely, the high class, composed of pupils who have passed a satis-

factory examination and been recommended by the board of trustees for an additional three years, in order to pursue a more advanced course of instruction, and the articulation department, where all pupils who are competent enough and will be benefited thereby are given a special training in articulation and lip reading."

Prof. Edward Beverly Nelson is principal of this institution, as he has been from the first. He graduated from Harvard College in 1873, with the degree of B. A., and two years ago was given the degree of M. A. by that institution. He has proven himself fitted in an eminent degree for the difficult and responsible position in which he is placed, and his success has been commensurate with his unflinching efforts for the good of the unfortunates who have come under his care.

The educational and domestic departments of the institution are in charge of the following persons:

Principal, Edward Beverly Nelson, M. A. In charge of literary classes: High class and Academical grades, Fort Lewis Seliney, Jonathan H. Eddy, Thomas H. Jewell. Primary and Intermediate grades, Mrs. Ella M. Holliday, in charge of articulation; Bessie Hall, Bertha Wilkes. Kindergarten, Sarah K. Marshall, Miss Gertrude Mosser. Monitors, Hymen A. Evans, Roger McGrath.

Board of Trustees.—President, Dr. W. J. P. Kingsley; first vice-president, Edward Comstock; second vice-president, Rev. Dr. Thomas Gallaudet; secretary and treasurer, John G. Bissell. First class—term expires February, 1896, Dr. W. J. P. Kingsley, Rev. Dr. Thomas Gallaudet, Thomas H. Stryker, H. M. Lawton. Second class—term expires February, 1897, A. C. Kessinger, D. P. McHarg, John G. Bissell, Edward Comstock, James H. Searles. Third class—term expires February, 1898, W. R. Huntington, E. L. Stevens, W. W. Wardwell, James Elwell. Executive committee, Dr. W. J. P. Kingsley, *ex officio*, John G. Bissell, D. P. McHarg, W. R. Huntington, Edward Comstock. Building committee, Edward Comstock, W. R. Huntington, James Elwell.

CHAPTER XVII.

THE NEWSPAPERS IN ROME.

In the year 1799, a few weeks subsequent to the time when a village in Oneida county was named after the "Eternal City," Messrs. Thomas Walker and Ebenezer Eaton, two young men of ability, industry and enterprise, came to this place and started a weekly newspaper, called the *Columbian Gazette*. They came from Worcester, Mass., brought the printing materials with them, and hired a man here to make a "ramage press," upon which the paper was printed. Mr. Walker was then but twenty-two, and Mr. Eaton (brother of General Eaton, who went to Africa and distinguished himself there), not much if any older. At that time Rome contained about 1,400 inhabitants and promised to be the largest place in the county. It was settled, too, by some of the most prominent men in all this section of country. Utica at that time was much smaller in size than Rome, numbering in 1820 only 2,000 persons. The town of Rome in 1820 numbered 3,569 persons. Messrs. Walker & Eaton located their newspaper establishment on Dominick street, in what was called the "McGraw house." The first paper was issued August 17, 1799, and while the first numbers were being struck off Mr. Liston, British minister at Washington, happened to be passing the office on his way to Canada; he called in and procured a copy. In the winter of 1800 Mr. Eaton left and went to Cayuga county, and Mr. Walker continued as sole proprietor. About a year after it was first started, the paper was moved to a chamber in the tavern house then occupied by Solomon Rich, known as the Rome Coffee House. Subsequently the paper was moved to a building on James street and published there until 1803. At that time the laying

out of the turnpike, or State road, from Utica through Vernon, etc., and the refusal of the owners of real estate in Rome to sell, except at extravagant prices, preferring to lease, together with the solicitations of political and personal friends of Mr. Walker in Utica, and the prospect that Utica was to be *the* place, Mr. Walker, in March of that year, removed his paper to Utica, continued its name there, and made it a supporter of Thomas Jefferson's administration

From March, 1803, until 1818, Rome was without a newspaper. In that year an effort was made by the Uticans to procure the courts, which were then held at Rome and Whitesboro, to be held in that city (village then). The Romans fought that move desperately, and to make the opposition to that project more forcible and effectual, the Romans induced E. Dorchester, of Utica, who was then publisher of the Utica Observer, to remove his press to this place. Mr. Dorchester had been of the firm of Walker & Dorchester in the publication of the Columbian Gazette, and had also in part, if not in whole, edited that paper, from 1814 to 1817. In the latter year he started the Utica Observer. In the fall of 1818 he removed it to Rome, and changed its name to the Oneida Observer, and located on the north side of Dominick street, in a building then standing just west of the Spencer Hall block site and between that block and Washington street. The paper was published there a year, and was patronized and taken by the Romans, and whilst here, battled successfully against the Utica movement relative to the courts. In this fight, the Whitestown people took sides with Rome. In 1819 Mr. Dorchester returned to Utica with his paper, changed its name back to the Utica Observer, and continued its publication.

From 1819 to 1821 Rome was without a paper. In February of that year Mr. Lorin Dewey started a paper called the Rome Republican. It was located in a building standing on James street, near the corner of Stone alley. In May of that year Chauncey Beach became the suc-

cessor of Mr. Dewey as publisher of the Republican. Shortly after Mr. Beach became proprietor the office was removed to a wooden building then standing where the Merrill block was erected, on the corner of James and Dominick streets. In the fore part of the season of 1828 the paper, which had been theretofore neutral in politics, came out for General Jackson for the presidency. This was done through the influence of Hon. H. A. Foster, Judge Hayden, Dr. Brown, and one or two others, who took stock in the paper or subscribed quite liberally for its support, with the understanding that each one of its subscribers, or stockholders, was to be repaid in advertising or job work, Judge Hayden being nominal editor. As soon as it became known that the paper had come out for Jackson, an execution was issued on a judgment against Beach, previously rendered, in favor of either William Williams or Mr. Seward, of Utica, and Deputy Sheriff Hubbell, of Utica, came to Rome to make the levy and carry off the type and materials. A levy was made and the materials loaded into a vehicle, and taken some distance from the village, when it was replevined and detained here by Mr. Foster, who had purchased a chattel mortgage given by Beach to S. B. Roberts prior to the judgment. That suit was subsequently compromised by each party party paying his own costs and the paper continued here.

Inasmuch as the Rome Republican had become a Jackson paper, the Adams men here thought they must have an organ too, so in June, 1828, they started a paper, with J. P. Van Sice, publisher, and called it the Oneida Republican; that paper was located on James street. Mr. Beach continued to publish the Rome Republican as a Jackson paper, where the Merrill block was built, and Mr. Van Sice continued the Oneida Republican on James street, until some time in 1830; in that year both papers became merged, in some way, and were moved to the "Checkered store," north side of Dominick street; the paper continuing Democratic, although J. P. Van Sice was publisher.

In April, 1831, the proprietors of the Republican (which seemed to be called after the consolidation the Oneida Republican, during the year 1830) sold the establishment to Eber P. Moon, who started a new paper, or rather continued the old one in an enlarged form, under the name of the Rome Telegraph. This paper was published by Mr. Moon in the "Checkered block" about a year, when he was succeeded by James H. Harris, who moved the establishment to a brick building on the south side of Dominick street. Harris continued as publisher for a year or two, when he was succeeded in 1834 by John Brydon, who superintended the paper, as announced, "for publisher and proprietor." During the publication of the Telegraph by Moon and Harris, they had given to Mr. Foster incumbrances upon the plant for advances made thereon, so that when Mr. Brydon came in Mr. Foster was the sole owner, the other stockholders or subscribers having been paid in full. Brydon removed the establishment to a wooden building then standing where the store now stands occupied by Spencer & White, the printing office entrance being from the alley. After Brydon left one or two others took charge of the establishment, which was a losing concern for Mr. Foster, until 1838, when Foster sold out to R. Waldby, Mr. Foster having sunk in the establishment some four thousand dollars. Mr. Foster paid Brydon \$10 a week for his services, paid the compositors and the other expenses of the office, and he (Mr. Foster) being in the Senate and necessarily absent from town a considerable portion of the time, Brydon collected amounts due the proprietor, pocketed them, and never accounted for them. By this process the proprietor was fleeced, yet he kept the paper going. B. F. Sherman, brother-in-law of Mr. Foster, wrote considerable for the paper, as did Mr. Foster when at home. When Mr. Waldby purchased, he moved the establishment across the street; he issued his first number November 13, 1838, and changed the name to the Democratic Sentinel. Calvert Comstock was the editor until after the close of the political campaign of 1840. He



SAMUEL O. SCUDDER, M. D.

came to this village in 1838 from Whitesboro, where he was practicing law, and entered into a partnership with Foster & Stryker, and was busily engaged in an extensive and lucrative law practice, when, at the urgent solicitation of political friends, he undertook the editorship as above stated; but in consequence of increasing and pressing law business he left the editorial chair after ten years' trial. In 1840 the Roman Citizen was started here as a Whig paper, as more fully described hereafter.

After Mr. Comstock's withdrawal as editor, L. D. Dana, then a law student in Foster, Stryker & Comstock's office, edited the paper for Mr. Waldby. In 1842 Mr. Waldby moved the establishment to a building which stood at the corner of the Erie Canal and James street.

In April, 1845, H. T. Utley and S. W. Morton purchased the establishment of Waldby, enlarged it and called the paper the Rome Sentinel, Mr. Utley being the editor. In that year the establishment was moved to the Armstrong block, south side of the canal. In September, 1846, Morton sold out his interest to A. J. Rowley, who became joint proprietor with Mr. Utley. Mr. Rowley entered the office as "devil" in 1835, when it was called the Rome Telegraph; he was then but eleven years of age, and had stuck to the paper "through thick and thin."

In July, 1847, Mr. Utley sold out to A. J. Rowley & Co. (the company being Calvert Comstock), Elon Comstock, afterward of the New York Journal of Commerce, being the editor. In 1850 A. J. Rowley became sole proprietor, E. Comstock continuing as editor. January 1, 1852, Elon Comstock became sole editor and proprietor. July 15, 1852, the Rome Daily Sentinel was started by Calvert and Elon Comstock, owners of the establishment, and who then removed it to Dominick street, over the Rome Exchange Bank. In October, 1854, C. & E. Comstock sold one-half of the Sentinel establishment to D. E. Wager and D. C. Rowley, the latter entering the establishment as an ap-

prentice in 1842. Mr. Rowley entered as "devil" in the Roman Citizen office in 1841. April 14, 1855, Wager & Rowley purchased the whole establishment of C. & E. Comstock. In July, 1861, Wood & Larwill became owners of the establishment, continuing thus until December, 1863, when the firm of Warren & Beers took it, it having been removed in the mean time to its present location. Mr. Warren was a former employee in the office of the Utica Observer, and Mr. Beers learned the printer's trade in the Rome Citizen office. In June, 1864, the establishment passed into the hands of Franklin D. Beers and Augustus C. Kessinger, who for more than thirty years have successfully conducted it. Mr. Kessinger began work in the Sentinel office in March, 1856. The daily and weekly Sentinel are Democratic in politics and are among the leading exponents of the principles of that party in the interior of the State. A. C. Kessinger is editor-in-chief, and is assisted by Albert R. Kessinger.

The Rome Citizen.—The political campaign of 1840 is remembered by old citizens as one of great activity. The Democratic party was largely in the ascendent in the town and county. The "Rome Regency then controlled the politics of the town and county and was influential in national affairs. Here resided some of the political magnates of the Democratic party—Henry A. Foster, a host in himself; John Stryker, the political king; Gen. Jesse Armstrong, member of Assembly in 1838; C. Comstock, an influential politician; B. P. Johnson, Alanson Bennett, Chester Hayden, and others." These Romans had their aids in all the towns of the county, and the Rome Regency controlled caucuses and county conventions. There was a Democratic newspaper here and had been for twenty years, with two in Utica, where there was only one Whig paper. There was no other Whig paper in the county except one at Vernon. In Rome in 1840 the number of leading Whigs was few, but they were able and determined. Among them were such men as Arden Seymour, S. B. Roberts,

William Howland, Calvin B. Gay, Simon Matteson, Virgil Draper, John B. Bradt, Sanford Adams, Woodman Kimball, and Francis Bicknell. They were full of fight and when the campaign of 1840 opened they wanted a newspaper organ. To supply this deficiency the *Vernon Compass* was in June of that year removed to Rome and its name changed to the *Roman Citizen*. H. N. Bill was the publisher. There was some discussion as to the name to be given to the paper after its removal, and it was finally agreed to call it the *Fort Stanwix Banner*; that heading was actually engraved ready for use. Upon further discussion and recognition of the fact that Stanwix Hall was the great rendezvous of the Democracy, and that it might be therefore mistakenly supposed by some that the paper was the organ of that party, Col. Arden Seymour suggested that the name be changed to the *Roman Citizen*.

The first number of the paper was issued June 8, 1840, from rooms over a store on the site of the Willett House. H. N. Bill was the proprietor, Calvin B. Gay editor, David H. Soliss foreman, John Monroe, oldest apprentice and Alfred Sandford "printer's devil." Mr. Gay was an able lawyer, a strong writer and acted as editor about two years. C. Comstock, another excellent lawyer, was his opponent in the Democratic paper. Other writers, of course, furnished political articles for each paper. The campaign contest was a sharp and bitter one. Mr. Bill continued publisher and about 1845 removed the office to rooms in the Kingsley block, corner James and Dominick streets. For a considerable period the two opposing papers were so bitter in and personal toward each other that various grand juries were besieged to find an indictment against the other for libel; but probably the grand jury thought it was about an even thing, for no indictment was found on either side.

Finding it difficult to make the establishment pay expenses Mr. Bill about 1845 placed it in a stock concern of fifty shares at \$25 a share.

These were taken by political friends and were to be repaid in printing. In 1846-7 J. P. Fitch hired the paper for one year of Mr. Bill, acted as editor and ran it on his own account. He was a vigorous man and caustic writer and made the Democratic politicians wiggle and twist as if on a bed of nettles. On August 1, 1847, A. Sandford and George Scott, both employees in the printing office, purchased Mr. Bill's interest for \$1,250, taking up the stock certificates before mentioned. Mr. Fitch was continued as editor at a yearly salary of \$100, he practicing law at the same time. About a year later he was succeeded by G. H. Lynch, who ably managed the paper through the Taylor campaign of 1848. Mr. Lynch retired in 1849 to accept a position in the custom house. In the fall of that year, A. C. Sandford purchased Mr. Scott's interest in the establishment and it was removed by the Messrs. Sandford, editors and proprietors, to the block opposite Stanwix Hall. In 1854 came the great congressional fight between O. B. Matteson and B. N. Huntington, which was not surpassed by any other political struggle that took place in this city. A. C. Sandford favored Mr. Matteson's election while Alfred Sandford favored Mr. Huntington. The succeeding convention was an exciting one, both men claiming to be regularly nominated. In October of that year (1854) A. C. Sandford sold his interest to a committee of Whigs friendly to Mr. Huntington and the paper thereafter advocated his election. A. D. Griswold was then the principal editor. The campaign was an extremely heated one and old citizens may remember that before election a sheet appeared headed "Roman Citizen Extra," containing gross charges against Mr. Matteson. Mr. Sandford threatened a libel suit and the charges published created great excitement throughout the country. It was generally believed for many years perhaps that Mr. Sandford was in some way responsible for the issue of that sheet. Such however is not the fact; it was published and circulated from Utica and he knew nothing of it until it appeared. In the fall

of 1854 A. Sandford became sole proprietor of the Citizen and Mr. Griswold continued for a number of years to act as editor. On December 1, 1855, the establishment was destroyed by fire; but the energetic proprietor took up new quarters in the Merrill block, gathered together some old type and issued his next regular edition. Within thirty days he had new presses, type, and all necessary materials for a new establishment. The office has never since left that building, though it has made local changes in its quarters.

On June 1, 1826, Egbert E. Carr purchased an interest in the Citizen establishment, and the firm of Sandford & Carr existed until February, 1884, when the veteran Mr. Sandford sold his interest to Ernest E. Byam, the firm becoming Carr & Byam. In June, 1887, Mr. Carr sold out to Clark Briggs, the firm name becoming Byam & Briggs. On January 1, 1896, Mr. Briggs purchased the interest of his partner and is now sole proprietor. In June, 1888, the semi-weekly Citizen was started, and is still continued. As a Republican organ of high character, the columns of which have always exhibited able editorial talent, the Citizen has during its long career found a large and friendly constituency.

The Rome Republican was founded in 1881, as a weekly Republican newspaper by J. J. Guernsey, a practical printer of long experience and a newspaper writer of ability. The Republican soon gained a large circulation and in 1895 a tri-weekly issue was established in connection with the original paper. E. M. Pavey acted as editor of the paper in association with Mr. Guernsey until April, 1896, when he was succeeded by J. M. Burke. Mr. Guernsey has made his journal attractive in appearance and given it an editorial tone that has made it a welcome guest wherever it has become known.

The Harness Gazette.—This successful trade journal was founded in its present form on January 1, 1886, by T. J. Mowry and H. B. Maxwell, though it had existed in newspaper form a few years prior to that

date. On January 1 1889, the Harness Gazette Company was incorporated, the same persons controlling the business. In July, 1889, Mr. Mowry purchased all of the stock and has since been sole proprietor and editor of the publication. Its name indicates the character of the Gazette and under Mr. Mowry's energetic and efficient management it has reached a remarkable degree of success

There have been a few ephemeral publications in Rome which did not meet with the success anticipated by their friends and passed away early. Among them was a Welsh paper *Y. Arweinyyd*, a semi-monthly paper started in January, 1858, with R. R. Meredith and Thomas T. Evans editors. It was discontinued in 1860.

The Parlor Journal and Literary News Letter, a monthly, was started in 1843 by Graham & Co. It did not long survive.

The Primitive Christian was published in 1845 by Rev. H. Matteson.

CHAPTER XVIII.

POST-OFFICE AND MAILS.

Matthew Brown, jr., was postmaster of Rome in 1800 and kept the office in his store on the site now occupied by F. A. Brockett, formerly J. D. Ely. Mr. Brown was doubtless the first postmaster of Rome. Joshua Hathaway was appointed about 1808 and held the office until his death in 1836. He was succeeded by his son Jay who remained in the office until 1849, when he was succeeded by R. G. Savery and the latter by A. J. Rowley. In 1857 D. E. Wager succeeded Mr. Rowley and in 1861 E. H. Shelley was appointed. In the fall of 1867 S. P. Lewis was appointed to succeed Mr. Shelley, but in the spring of the next year Mr. Shelley was reinstated, and was succeeded in 1870 by B. Whitman Williams, who was succeeded in 1881 by G. M. Palmer. J. D. Corcoran was appointed by President Cleveland in 1885, and was followed by Judge Scripture in 1889. Judge Scripture resigned in 1893, and the present postmaster C. H. Dunning was given the place.

In 1820 and previously the mails were brought from Utica to Rome sometimes on horseback and some of the time in a one horse conveyance, Bildad Merrill, of Utica, having the contract and his son being the post-rider. This was a semi-weekly mail seventy years ago. About the same time George Washington Frederick Steuben Parkhurst, of Whitesboro, carried a weekly mail from Utica north via Rome to Sackett's Harbor. In 1824, or thereabouts, Mr. Nichols, son-in-law of James Thompson, who then kept the American Hotel in Rome, ran a line of stages and carried the mail between Utica and Oswego via Rome. A man in Jefferson county succeeded Mr. Parkhurst in this

contract. Not far from 1830 Col. Elisha Backus, of Trenton, and Samuel Buckley, of Watertown, succeeded the Jefferson county contractor. The sons of Mr. Thompson also carried mails north from Rome about that time. M. L. Kenyon, stage driver under Backus, bought out the latter and after that he, M. D. Hollister and Giles Hawley were successively interested in these stage lines and in carrying mails. It is related that while Joshua Hathaway was postmaster he would permit no talking, wearing of hats, or standing up in the post-office while the mail was being distributed. As soon as the mail was brought in he would remark in a stern voice to those present, "Gentlemen, the United States mail has come; be seated and take off your hats, and no talking while the United States mail is being opened and distributed." The order was obeyed with as much deference as is the similar order at court to keep silence under pain of imprisonment, while a judge delivers a charge to a grand jury.

After Jay Hathaway's incumbency in the post-office, the office was about 1840 removed to the southwest corner of James and Dominick streets, and about 1845 to the Arcade. Soon after the cars began running west from Utica in 1839, the mails were brought here thereon, and as Kenyon & Co. had the carrying of the mails north of here, the post-office department insisted that it belonged to those contractors to carry the mails between the depot and the post-office. The mails were so carried by them for a number of years, but at last they gave it up and the postmaster had to see to it himself for a time. The first regular mail carrier between the depot and the post-office was Warren Raymond; he received \$80 a year compensation. After him Charles Yorkey was carrier at the same pay. In May, 1849, Mr. Williams commenced in the position and continued twenty to thirty years. When he began he carried the mail on his arm in a small leather bag, the bag being about as large as himself. In a year or two the mail increased and he had to use a wheelbarrow and still later a hand-cart.



JAMES H. SEARLES.

In 1852 he was compelled to use a horse and wagon. When A. J. Rowley was appointed postmaster he removed the office to Elm Row. Sunday, July 29, 1866, Elm Row was burned and the post-office was temporarily removed to the court house. When the block was built on the site of Elm Row the office was removed thither in February, 1867.

CHAPTER XIX.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

When the need of banking facilities in Rome became urgent the following memorial was addressed to the Legislature :

The memorial of the undersigned, a Committee of the Inhabitants of the town of ROME, in the County of Oneida, Respectfully represents:

That the citizens of that town and its vicinity, are desirous of obtaining a Charter for a Bank, to be located in the village of Rome, with a capital of \$100,000, with the privilege of increasing the same to \$150,000, to be called the Bank of Rome. The undersigned, in discharge of the duty assigned them, proceed to state some of the reasons for the application.

The result of the last census shows that the County of Oneida is one of the most populous in the State, and second only to the city and county of New York. Its present number of inhabitants is nearly 72,000, and its limits embrace a highly rich and fertile territory, abundant in resources, containing some large and many flourishing villages, and the largest manufacturing district in the State. From its local situation much trade from the north and south, centres within it. From these and other causes, a large amount of Bank Capital is required for the convenient and advantageous transaction of business. The undersigned are aware that a considerable and indeed, all the bank capital of the county is now located at Utica; but they are led to the irresistible conclusion that the amount already invested there is wholly insufficient to meet the wants of the persons who resort to that place for accommodations; without regard to the northern part of the county and the counties adjoining. This conclusion is based upon the fact, that your honorable body, at many of its previous sessions, and also at its present session, has been applied to for the incorporation of the Oneida Bank, with a capital of \$500,000; and in addition, the Bank of Utica has also applied for liberty to increase its capital \$400,000. Besides, two of the banking institutions at present located there are of uncertain duration and may be withdrawn at any moment: the Ontario Bank, to the original location of the parent institution, and the United States Branch may discontinue its operations, whenever the Directors of the mother bank may from a refusal to renew its charter or any other cause, be induced to do so. The amount of permanent capital

at that place is then only about half a million of dollars, while in the city of New York, with a population only two-thirds larger than that of this county, there is more than sixteen millions and in the city and county of Albany, with a population about 18,000 less than our own, more than one and a half million.

The undersigned, therefore, confidently believe, that an equal extent of the country, embracing as large a population, cannot be found in the State, with a less amount of bank capital than the county of Oneida.

The village of Rome, in which the proposed institution is desired to be located, is situated nearly in the geographical center of the county, contains 1,400 inhabitants and 21 stores, in which merchandise to the value of more than two hundred thousand dollars is annually sold. In the town is an extensive cotton factory, a woolen factory, fourteen sawmills, three gristmills and four tanneries. It contains also, a canal toll office, at which was received nearly 30,000 dollars for tolls upon property during the last season; being three-fourths of the amount received at Utica for the same period. Utica is situated upon the county line, fifteen miles east of Rome and nearly forty from the northern and western extremities of the county. To Utica the collector must transmit his monies for deposit, and there, the inhabitants of the northern and western sections of the county must resort for bank accommodations. Those residing in the towns of Florence, Camden, Vienna, Annsville, Lee and Western generally pass through Rome to Utica, and those residing in Boonville, Steuben, Remsen, Trenton, Floyd, Verona, Vernon, and part of Westmoreland, Deerfield and Whitestown, would find Rome more convenient to their residences, than Utica. In addition, portions of the counties of Madison, Oswego and Lewis, on a route to the great market towns of the State are nearer to Rome than any other place where a bank is already located, and the facilities for traveling are greater. But independent of other counties, at least one-half of the citizens of this county would be far better accommodated by a bank at Rome than at Utica.

The undersigned therefore, confidently assert, that if local advantages, the quantity of business, the wants of the community, and the proper distribution of institutions depending upon legislative enactment, be taken into consideration, the village of Rome presents claims equal, if not superior, to a great variety of places in which banks have been located before, as well as since the adoption of the safety fund system. That system, at once highly creditable to the State, and affording ample security to its citizens, has so well established the confidence of the public in the stability and permanency of our banking institutions, that every facility consistent with the public good should, in the opinion of the undersigned, be granted for the diffusion of their benefits among all classes, and in sections of the country which have hitherto, in a great measure, been deprived of them.

The undersigned, relying upon the merits of their application, and believing that

your Honorable body will not fail to appreciate them, respectfully request, that the prayer of your memorialists be granted.

Dated at Rome, January, 1832.

JAY HATHAWAY,
A. BENNETT,
J. ARMSTRONG,
B. P. JOHNSON,
W. C. NOYES,
Committee.

The foregoing memorial is a fair statement of the situation at that time; it, moreover, gives pertinent hints of the feeling of rivalry existing between the village and Utica. That Rome deserved a bank is clear enough, and doubtless the Legislature appreciated that fact, for the charter was granted. Rome was then the center of an extensive section embracing many villages and hamlets and a rich farming area which poured a considerable flood of business hither. The numerous tradesmen in those villages had a large part of their goods shipped from eastern markets by canal and most of them came to Rome, whence they were taken to their destination by farmers' teams and others who made a business of it. It was this fortunate situation as much as anything that enabled the place to pass through the panics of 1836-7 and 1857 with less disaster than befell many other similar communities. While Rome has suffered, and that severely, through unfortunate failure of banks, it is true on the other hand that those now in existence are prudently and liberally managed and give to the city the financial accommodation and facilities needed for the successful transaction of the large mercantile and manufacturing interests.

The oldest banking institution now doing business in Rome is the First National. This bank was organized February 19, 1851, as the Rome Exchange Bank, with a capital of \$100,000, which has never been changed. The first president was Robert B. Doxtater; Alva Mudge, vice-president; these with Edward Huntington, Gordon N. Bissell, Calvert Comstock, David Utley, John B. Jervis, and Roland S.

Doty were the first directors. In June, 1853, Edward Huntington was elected president, and held the office until 1882 when Gordon N. Bissell was elected. He was succeeded in 1887 by F. H. Thomas, and he by Thomas G. Nock in 1889. On May 28, 1890, J. G. Bissell was elected president to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Nock, and still holds the office. Gordon N. Bissell held the office of vice-president from 1858 to 1882, when he was succeeded by Thomas G. Nock, and he by J. G. Bissell in 1889. When Mr. Bissell was advanced to the presidency, William R. Huntington was elected to the office of vice president. The bank has always occupied its present site, on which its building was burned in February, 1881, and the present structure erected. The present (1896) board of directors consists of the following: J. G. Bissell, W. R. Huntington, Thomas G. Nock, George W. Davis, Henry G. Wright, Thomas M. Flandrau, Calvin Petrie, John B. Higgins, Edward Barnard. The last statement of this bank shows resources of \$456,666.60 with a surplus fund of \$20,000 and undivided profits of \$10,236.97.

The Oneida County Savings Bank was organized May 1, 1869, with the following officers: Trustees, Samuel B. Stevens (who was chosen president), Alfred Ethridge (vice-president), John J. Perry, Henry Hager, John F. Mix, Henry Johnson, James Walker, Alfred Sandford, Charles E. Frazer, Harold H. Pope, Henry R. Hill, Thomas D. Roberts, Salmon Tuttle, and G. Harrison Lynch who was chosen secretary and treasurer. The bank began business in the Central National Bank rooms, and continued there until April 1, 1895, when it was removed to 158 West Dominick street. The number of depositors is now about 1,800. Owen E. Owens is president; T. D. Roberts, first vice-president; F. L. Roth, second vice-president; John R. Edwards, secretary and treasurer.

The Rome Savings Bank was organized in 1851, with Hervey Braton, president; Andrew C. Bettis, vice-president; B. J. Beach, secre-

tary. The business of the bank has been, until very recently, conducted in the building of the Fort Stanwix Bank. Edward Huntington was the second president of the institution and resigned in 1878, to be succeeded by Gordon N. Bissell. He filled the office until his death, February 18, 1891. Since that time Harvey D. Spencer has been president. Wheeler Armstrong is first vice-president; A. P. Tuller, second vice-president; C. F. Barnard, secretary and treasurer. The trustees are as follows: John G. Bissell, Wheeler Armstrong, J. H. Searles, J. S. Dyett, Samuel Wardwell, Harvey D. Spencer, William R. Huntington, Henry Barnard, Ackley P. Tuller, Harmon G. Utley, Henry G. Wright. The report of this bank for January, 1886, shows assets of \$1,986,765.61, with a surplus (stocks at market value) of \$303,123 02.

The Bank of Rome was organized under the State law in 1875 with a capital of \$100,000 which remains the same. In 1879 the name was changed to the Farmers' National Bank, and has so continued. W. J. P. Kingsley was elected the first president and still holds the office. R. M. Bingham was the first vice-president and was succeeded by Edward Comstock. Samuel Wardwell is cashier, Charles E. Wardwell teller, and the following are the directors in 1896: W. J. P. Kingsley, Burt Olney, E. L. Stevens, A. P. Tuller, John D. Oxner, Edward Comstock, W. W. Wardwell, Louis Glesman, John R. Edwards, Charles Rathbun, T. E. Roberts, Samuel Wardwell, Charles E. Wardwell, H. J. Hitchcock, John Wylie. The bank statement of May, 1896, shows resources of \$697,070.98 with surplus and undivided profits of \$20,905 80.

Of the banks which had an existence in Rome and have become extinct, the old Bank of Rome, the organization of which has been noticed in earlier pages of this volume, was the first and had a fairly prosperous existence down to 1863, when it went into liquidation and wound up its affairs. John Stryker was long president of that institution, and George R. Thomas, subsequently connected with the Utica banks, acted as cashier many years.

The Central National Bank was organized in 1854 as the Oneida Central Bank. It was changed to a national bank in 1865, with \$100,000 capital. For forty years it carried on business, having among its officials some of the leading men of the city. It failed in December, 1894, going into the hands of Jim Stevens as receiver, and its affairs are in progress of settlement while this work is in press.

The Fort Stanwix National Bank was organized as a State bank in 1847 and began business in February, 1848, with David Utley, president; W. W. Nellis, cashier; H. G. Utley, teller. In 1865 the bank became national in charter, with a capital of \$150,000. From that time onward until the present year (1896) it was considered one of the strongest financial institutions in Central New York, and had the confidence of every citizen of Oneida county. The late George Barnard had been its trusted cashier many years. On January 30, 1896, just as the State bank examiner was about to make his regular examination of the bank, Mr. Barnard hung himself in an upper room of the bank building. The succeeding examination revealed a shortage of about \$400,000. The affairs of the institution are being closed and all available assets paid to depositors.

CHAPTER XX.

THE BAR OF ROME.

Many of the early lawyers and judges of Oneida county have been noticed in Chapter XXII of Volume I of this work. Some of them and others to be noticed here were conspicuous at the bar and on the bench in years long past. No attempt is made here to arrange these sketches in the order of the prominence of their subjects, but rather to follow a chronological arrangement.

James Lynch graduated at Columbia College in 1799, read law with Joshua Hathaway, and in 1804, was admitted to practice. He opened a law office in Rome, and had charge of his father's lands in this locality. The two main streets in Rome bear the Christian names of father and son—the father when Rome was organized as a town, owning some 2,500 acres of land, which included Fort Stanwix and the site of the whole business portion of Rome. He succeeded from Rome George Huntington in the Assembly, and was elected on the Federal ticket in the years 1813, 1814 and 1815, all through the hardest part of the war. He moved to Utica in 1818, opened a law office there, and about 1820 he became what was called a "high-minded Federalist," repudiated De Witt Clinton, and went in for D. D. Tompkins, and in 1822 was elected to the Assembly. It was the year John E. Hinman was elected sheriff over S. Newton Dexter, and E. Dorchester, of the Oneida Observer, county clerk over Julius Pond. In 1825 Mr. Lynch moved to New York city, became judge of the Marine Court, and held that position until his death in 1853, at the age of sixty-seven years.

Wheeler Barnes was born in Massachusetts, but he came from Ver-



J. ARTHUR SMITH.

mont to Rome about 1806, being at that time admitted to practice law. He was elected supervisor of Rome in 1815, and again in 1816, and in the latter year was elected to the Assembly on the Federal ticket. He was a member of that Legislature which abolished slavery, and which authorized the commencement of the construction of the Erie Canal. In 1822 Mr Barnes ran again for the Assembly, but that was the first year after the new constitution of 1821 had gone into effect, and it was not a good year for any politician who still held to his Federal notions. Mr. Barnes did quite an extensive law practice for those times, and was for a time law partner of William Curtis Noyes. He was trustee of Rome village in 1822, 1823, 1824, and 1825. Not far from 1837 he resided in Oswego, but in a few years he moved back to Rome, and died here in July, 1858, at the age of seventy-six years, and as the inscription upon his tombstone in the old burying ground reads, "having been a resident of Rome for fifty years."

In 1806 another native of Massachusetts made Rome his permanent home. James Sherman, the newcomer, was a graduate of Williams College, and when he came to Rome was twenty-six years of age, and was an admitted attorney. For a year or so, and about 1807, he was a law partner of Joshua Hathaway, and was himself a candidate for the office of surrogate, and had obtained the necessary recommendations to secure his appointment; but, on request, gave way to his partner, who was appointed. Mr. Sherman was justice of the peace for a number of years, and held other town offices, but did not mix much in county or State politics. He died in Rome in 1823, at the age of forty-three. He was father-in-law of Judge Henry A. Foster.

Two years before Rome was organized into a town, Seth B. Roberts, then a boy of four years old, came with his parents from Middletown, Conn., to Whitestown, and there resided until about 1809, when he made Rome his residence. He read law with James Lynch; was ad-

mitted to the bar in 1816, and opened a law office in Rome. Mr. Lynch, who had acted as the agent for his father in the leasing of lands and collection of rents in Rome, moved to Utica in 1818, and Mr. Roberts was appointed in his place, which delicate and responsible trust he held for fifty-three years, through the various titles and successive changes of ownership of that landed property. The duties connected with that trust occupied the main portion of his time, so that he gave but little attention to law business, nor did he ever become much known, either as a lawyer or as a politician. He was firm and decided in his political convictions, yet he always sympathized and most generally acted with the party that most strongly favored the temperance cause and anti-slavery movement, or had for its object the bettering of the condition and the elevation of the human race. In the strong Democratic town of Rome, he was not infrequently elected to town offices, although he was always on the other side in politics. In 1840 he was appointed one of the judges of the Oneida Common Pleas and for five years held that office. For sixty years of his life he was a resident of Rome, and the oldest inhabitant can not, through the whole of that period, recall a single instance where he was seen to be angry, or manifested the least irritation of temper. He who possesses, or can maintain, such an equanimity for such a period of time is entitled to a place in any history, the recent one of Oneida county not excepted. Without guile in his heart, and with malice toward none and charity for all, he had not while living an enemy in the world, and no one even uttered an unkind word concerning him. He died in October, 1870, in the eighty-first year of his age.

Not far from 1812 Chester Hayden opened a law office in Rome. He married a sister of James Sherman. He was, for a time, law partner of Weeeler Barnes, and in 1818 was town clerk of Rome; ran for Assembly in this county in 1821, and was defeated, and same year he moved to Pulaski and was appointed surrogate of Oswego county, and

held that office for three years. In 1826 he returned to Rome, and was law partner of Henry A. Foster for a few years thereafter. In 1830 he was appointed first judge of the Oneida Common Pleas, and about that time moved to Utica, and he held that office until 1840. In 1843 he was appointed side judge, and held that position for three years. About that time he moved to Albany, and in 1848 he published a legal work on "Practice and Pleadings" under the Code, that year brought into use for the first time. Subsequently he moved to Ohio, where he died, being at his death president and professor of a law school in that State.

Soon after the war of 1812 the father of Benjamin P. Johnson came from Columbia county to Rome and located here. The father was a practicing physician. Benjamin P. had read law with Elisha Williams, that renowned jury lawyer, of Hudson, Columbia county, and was admitted to the bar in this county in 1817. He was the first clerk of Rome village, two years afterwards, and held for many years the office of justice of the peace, school commissioner and other town offices—was commissioner of deeds, master in chancery, etc. In 1826 he was elected to the Assembly and again in 1827 and 1828. He never was prominent as a lawyer, although he had great versatility of talent, and was noted for the accuracy and quickness with which he dispatched business. It is said that he was able to listen to and carry on conversation with several persons on different subjects, and at the same time draw a contract, or write a letter. In the great religious revival under Mr. Finney, in 1825 and 1826, Mr. Johnson was converted, and in February of the last named year, he united with the Presbyterian church, and about the time as did 184 others on the same day. He was quite active and prominent in church matters, and not far from 1830 was licensed to preach by the Oneida Presbytery, and occupied the pulpit of the Second church, in Rome, during the occasional absences of its pastor, and also preached at other places, for the then ensuing ten

years. It is not an unusual occurrence for persons to leave the ministry for the legal profession, nor for members of the bar to abandon the law and go into the ministry; but the instances are quite rare when a person occupies the pulpit and practices at the bar during the same period of time. It affords evidence that all lawyers are not as bad as they are painted, and that more of them should "practice what they preach." In 1841 Mr. Johnson was made the first president of the Oneida County Agricultural Society, and for two or three years thereafter he was associated with Elon Comstock, in the publication of an agricultural paper at Rome. In 1847 he went to Albany and became secretary and treasurer of the State Agricultural Society, and held that position for twenty-two years. In 1851 he was delegate or commissioner from this State to the World's Fair, at London; and the information he there gathered, and the sights he there saw, offered him the opportunity to advance the sphere of usefulness of the society of which he was secretary. Mr. Johnson died in Albany, in April, 1869, at the age of seventy-six years. His remains are now in the Rome cemetery.

In the winter of 1819-20, Joseph B. Read, a schoolmate of Henry A. Foster, came to Rome and entered the law office of Seth B. Roberts to complete his law studies. He had previously read law in Delphi, Onondaga county. For a number of years he was justice of the peace in Rome; was admitted in 1823, and about 1824-5 became a law partner of Mr. Foster. In 1831 he was trustee of Rome village, and when George Brown, of Rome, in 1832, entered upon his duties as county clerk, Mr. Read was made his first deputy. His health was then poor, and he far gone with consumption. The fall he started to go South to spend the winter for his health, but he died while on the boat going down the river from Albany to New York.

Prior to 1810, a young man, then of Otsego county, commenced the study of medicine in the office of the celebrated Dr. White, of Cherry Valley, with a view of becoming a practicing physician. He was about

eighteen years of age, and with such an education as the common schools of the country then afforded. He supported himself by teaching district schools in winter, that he might, in summer, study for a profession. Having occasion to attend court at Cooperstown, he was so charmed with the trial of the causes, and with legal proceedings in court, that he expressed to Joshua Hathaway, of Rome, who then chanced to be at court at Cooperstown, a notion and a desire to exchange the study of the medical, for that of the legal profession. He was encouraged so to do, and invited to become a student in Mr. Hathaway's office. The invitation was accepted, and Samuel Beardsley came to Rome; boarded in the family of Mr. Hathaway; read law; tended post-office, and assisted in the Surrogate's Court, all in the same office, then on the site now occupied by "Elm Row" buildings. The studies of Mr. Beardsley were again interrupted, not by peaceful pursuits, but by the stern realities of war. The northern frontier of New York was invaded by British troops, and in 1813 Mr. Beardsley went to Sackett's Harbor to assist in the defense of his country. On his return to Rome he completed his legal studies; was admitted to the bar in 1815; took up his residence in Watertown for a year; returned to Rome and opened a law office; married a daughter of Judge Hathaway, and was law partner of James Lynch for a short time. He was town clerk of Rome in 1817; supervisor in 1818, 1819 and 1820. In 1821 he was appointed district attorney in place of Nathan Williams—on the same day that his father-in-law was made surrogate of the county. In 1822 Mr. Beardsley, Thomas Greenly, of Madison county, Sherman Wooster, of Herkimer, and Alvin Bronson, of Oswego, were elected senators from this district, over George Huntington and his associates. This was the first election under the new Constitution of 1821, and it is a singular fact, and worthy of mention, that the Democrats elected, that year, the whole thirty two senators in the State—a victory no party had won since the formation of the State government. Mr. Beardsley drew for the short

term in the Senate, and served but one year. In 1823 he was appointed by President James Monroe, United States district attorney for this district. Soon after his appointment as United States district attorney in 1823, Mr. Beardsley moved from Rome to Utica. In 1830 he was elected to Congress by 1,648 majority over S. N. Dexter who ran as the anti-Jackson and anti-Masonic candidate. Mr. Beardsley's majority in Rome was 184. Fortune C. White ran as the workingman's candidate, and received three votes in Rome, and 249 in the county. On his election to Congress he resigned the office of United States district attorney. In 1832 he ran the second time for Congress, and was elected over Charles P. Kirkland, by about 600 majority in the county. In January, 1834, Governor Marcy tendered to Mr. Beardsley the office of circuit judge for this judicial district; but as President Jackson needed his services and the Democratic party his vote in Congress he declined the proffered appointment, and Hiram Denio was appointed in the fall of that same year. Mr. Beardsley ran again for Congress, and was elected over Joshua A. Spencer. In 1836 he was appointed attorney-general, and in 1842 he was again elected to Congress over Charles P. Kirkland. In February, 1844, Governor Bouck appointed Mr. Beardsley Supreme Court judge, and three years later he was made chief justice, and held that office until the Constitution of 1846 went into effect. Mr. Beardsley was a Democrat of the strictest sect, the *hardest* of the "hards" in the time of that party. He was one of the very few who could and did take an active part in politics, for over thirty years of an unusually busy life and yet stood on a level at the bar and on the bench with the ablest lawyers in the land, and head and shoulders above a large majority of his fellows. On his retiring from judicial duties, for it can hardly be said he ever retired from taking a great interest in politics, he opened a law office in New York city for a while, devoting himself wholly to counsel business, retaining however his residence in Utica. He died in the latter city, May 6, 1860, the very day he had attained the age of seventy years and three months.

In 1812, when Samuel Beardsley was reading law in the office of Mr. Hathaway, tending post-office and boarding in the family of his then future father-in-law, he had a fellow boarder and student a young man a couple of months younger than himself, who had graduated from Brown University in Rhode Island, and that year came with his father's family to Rome and settled at the "Ridge." That fellow student and boarder was Daniel Wardwell, who the next year went into the office of Gold & Sill of Whitesboro, and was admitted to the Jefferson Common Pleas in 1814 while for a brief time a resident of that county. He married a daughter of Newton Mann, lived and practiced law in Rome in 1816 and 1817, his office being a small frame building where the Sentinel office now is. In 1820 he lived in Utica, and soon after moved to Jefferson county; and 1824 was appointed by Governor Yates side judge of that county. It was in his office in 1821 at Adams, that Rev. Charles O. Finney, who afterward become the noted revivalist, was reading law at the time of his conversion, and thereupon abandoned the law for the ministry. Mr. Wardwell was elected member of assembly from Jefferson county 1825, 1826 and 1827. In 1826 he was the means of causing great commotion at Albany, New York and the river counties, by his introduction into the Assembly and advocacy of a resolution favoring the removing of the State capital to Utica or some other central point. The project took like wild fire in the central and western part of the State, and public meetings were held at Utica, presided over and taken part in by its leading and prominent citizens in favor of the proposition. Unfortunately that measure failed. In 1828, in the exciting presidential contest between Jackson and Adams, Mr. Wardwell ran for State senator in his district. His opponent was William H. Maynard of Utica. Masonry or anti Masonry was then one of the exciting topics of the canvass. The election was close, but Mr. Maynard was elected by about 300 majority. In return for this defeat, the Jefferson county district elected Mr. Wardwell to Congress for three

successive terms, the first time in 1830, and which was for a longer time than any other person has been elected from that county. It is worth while to note that he was elected for the same three terms and in the same years, as was his fellow law student Mr. Beardsley from this county, and that both were warm personal and political friends, and were among the most determined adherents and supporters of President Jackson all through the stormy period of his administration. Daniel Wardwell and Samuel Beardsley were for so many years in such close contact and fellowship with President Jackson, it has often seemed as if they had much of the unyielding purpose, unbending integrity and Roman firmness of that fearless statesman. In the last year of Mr. Wardwell's life, after his mind had passed into the penumbra of that eclipse from which it never fully emerged, while his conversation wandered on all other subjects, a recurrence to or calling up of the stormy times when he was in Congress, seemed to remove the clouds from his mental vision, to bring light and flash to his eye, determination in his look, as if those scenes were again passing in review before him, and if ready to exclaim like Bonaparte in his wild delirium at St. Helena, "the head of the army!" Mr. Wardwell was elected to the Assembly for the fourth time in 1837 from Jefferson county. He became a resident of Rome again in 1860, and died here in March, 1878, lacking but a month of his eighty-seventh birthday.

Hiram Denio was born in Wright Settlement, obtained all his education in town except what he obtained at Fairfield Academy; read law at first with Wheeler Barnes, and afterwards with Storrs & White of Whitesboro; was admitted to the bar in 1821; opened a law office in Rome; was appointed in 1825 district attorney of the county, to succeed Samuel Beardsley, and about that time moved to Utica. In 1834 he was appointed circuit judge, and after four years was compelled to resign by reason of ill health; held the office of bank commissioner from 1838 to 1841; was clerk of the old Supreme Court from about 1840



Albert Lopez

to 1845 ; was Supreme Court reporter from 1845 to 1847, as the five volumes of Denio's Reports attest ; in June, 1853, he was appointed by Governor Seymour to fill a vacancy in the Court of Appeals, and in the fall of that year was elected over Judge Mullin ; when his term ran out fourteen years later, he was renominated. It is a little singular, that as decided a Democrat as Judge Denio was, and as intimate as he, Judge Beardsley, Judge Foster, Greene C. Bronson and other Democrats were in politics, he never attended conventions nor aspired to political office. That he was a lawyer and judge, however, second to none in the State, all concede. He died in November, 1871.

In November, 1819, a young man, but a few months past nineteen years of age, came from the office of Beach & Popple, attorneys and counselors at Oswego, to Rome, and entered the law office of James Sherman, to complete his law studies. At that time, to be an attorney and counselor of the Supreme Court required a previous course of study of seven years. Two and a half years of that time had been passed by that student, commencing in 1815, in the law office at Cazenovia, of David B. Johnson, father of D. M. K. Johnson, of Rome. In 1818 he read law at Onondaga Hill, then the county seat of Onondaga county, in the office of B. Davis Noxon, who subsequently became an eminent lawyer in Central New York, and was father of Judge Noxon, of Syracuse. When Henry A. Foster entered the law office of James Sherman, as above stated, the Erie Canal between Rome and Utica was but just completed and brought into use. There were at that time six lawyers in Rome, viz.: Joshua Hathaway, Wheeler Barnes, James Sherman, Samuel Beardsley, S. B. Roberts, and B. P. Johnson. Mr. Hathaway devoted most of his time to official duties, Mr. Roberts had charge of the Lynch estate, and Mr. Johnson had been admitted only a couple of years. In those days the oldest as well as the foremost members of the bar practiced in Justice's Court whenever an opportu-

nity offered, and tried causes therein with as much zeal and tenacity as in courts of record. For a law student to obtain a livelihood, when he had to compete in those courts with experienced and influential practitioners, it was requisite he should be one of more than ordinary pluck, industry and intelligence. It was only for a few years previous that anybody could practice in Justices' Courts, for, as the law stood prior to 1812, justices of the peace were prohibited by positive law from allowing any one to appear in their courts as an advocate, or to try causes, except in cases of the sickness of the suitor. But in April, 1812, that law was repealed, and the preamble to the repealing clause reads so quaintly yet so truthfully, and withal sounds so oddly at the present day, that we are tempted to copy it. It reads: "Whereas it often happens that suitors are wanting in ability to do justice to their own causes, *or are deserted by that presence of mind which is the requisite to command or bring into use such abilities as they may actually possess*; and whereas it is a constitutional right which every person has, to employ assistance in all lawful business, *therefore* the above section is repealed." It is an acknowledgment of an old saying, that he who tries his own cause has a fool for a client. It was well understood that whenever Mr. Foster was in a law case, even when a law student, that in the vernacular of the present day, "it meant business." In 1822 he was admitted to the bar, and within three hours after his admission to the Common Pleas, he was assigned by the court to defend a person who was indicted for petit larceny, second offense, the offense having been committed before the first conviction. In the judicial records of Oneida county are the notes of a trial, which took place that year at the General Sessions, before Judges Joshua Hathaway, Truman Enos and Samuel Jones. Samuel Beardsley was district attorney. As the law now is, a person convicted for the first time of petit larceny, is liable to imprisonment only, in the county jail, and if convicted of a similar offense, after the first conviction, then the punishment is by im-

prisonment in the State prison. The statute as it then read provided for the punishment, by imprisonment in the State Prison, "of every person who should be a second time, or oftener, convicted of petit larceny," without saying (as the law now does) that the second offense must be committed, *after a conviction* for a former theft. The objection was taken by Mr. Foster, that this could not be a State prison offense, as the indictment did not allege nor the proofs show, that the offense was committed after a previous conviction; but that in fact, the *conviction* was for the second offense; that the intent and spirit of the statute were to work a reformation of the offender, by increasing the punishment, for offenses committed after a conviction; but if this was a State Prison offense, then the punishment was the greater for the *first* offense. The district attorney relied upon the literal reading of the statute, and for two hours the respective counsel argued that question of law to the court. Two of the judges held with the district attorney, and the other one with Mr. Foster, and so the case had to go to the jury. As jurors in those days were popularly considered judges of the law as well as of the fact in criminal trials, the prisoner's counsel summed up to the jury on that theory and on that question of law, and for two hours the counsel on both sides argued to the jury as to the construction which should be given to that statute, without either side hardly touching upon the merits of the case, as to the guilt or innocence of the accused. The jury took the law of the case into their own hands, construed the statute differently from the two judges, and on that question of law *acquitted the prisoner!* With such a "send off" at the commencement of a professional career and when but twenty-two years old, it can hardly be supposed Mr. Foster ever lacked for clients. A few years later, the same question came up again in this county, and was carried to the Supreme Court, and that court (3d Cow. Rep., 347), gave the construction to the law contended for by Mr. Foster, and then the Legislature changed the statute, to make it con-

formable to that decision. It was difficult in those days, if not impossible, for a person to remain neutral in, or for one of ambition and ability to keep out of politics during the exciting times growing out of the discussion relative to the convention and constitution of 1821, the elective franchise, the presidential campaign between General Jackson and John Quincy Adams in 1824, and the still more exciting one of 1828. Mr. Foster, like Samuel Beardsley, Greene C. Bronson, Samuel A. Talcott, William H. Maynard, Henry R. Storrs, Joseph Kirkland, Ezekiel Bacon, Joshua A. Spencer, Timothy Jenkins, and other legal luminaries, drifted into politics, and at an early age all of the above took as active a part in caucuses and conventions as in the trial of causes at the Circuit. In 1826, in the gubernatorial contest between De Witt Clinton and William B. Rochester, Mr. Foster was nominated for Assembly on the Rochester ticket; but the Clintonians and Federalists were too strong in the county, and the Rochester Assembly ticket was defeated. In 1827 Mr. Foster made a bold push for the office of surrogate, then held by Mr. Hathaway. It was a hazardous attempt for a young man, not then twenty-seven years of age, to try for the displacement of one who had been in political life as long as Mr. Hathaway, and who knew so well all the ins and outs of politics; and moreover, who had to back him his son-in-law, Mr. Samuel Beardsley, then an important factor in the politics of the county and State. Nevertheless, the effort was made. In March, 1827, Mr. Foster was appointed Mr. Hathaway's successor, surrogate of Oneida county, by Governor De Witt Clinton, which office he held until 1831. In 1830 he was elected State senator over Nehemiah Huntington, an old lawyer of Madison county. Mr. Foster's majority in Oneida county was 1,400. Ephraim Hart, of Utica ran on the workingmen's party, and received *one* vote in Rome and 475 votes in the county.

Mr. Foster was trustee of Rome village in 1826, 1827 and 1828, and supervisor of the town in 1829 and 1830, and again in 1833 and 1834.

In January, 1835, he was again appointed surrogate of Oneida county, to succeed Alanson Bennett, and held the position until he resigned in August, 1837, as he was then soon to commence his congressional labors at Washington. In 1836 he was elected to Congress over Joshua A. Spencer, although Israel Stoddard ran as the "bolters'" candidate, and carried off 1,200 votes. It was the year Martin Van Buren was elected president of the United States. In the Harrison campaign of 1840 ex-Governor Seymour and Ward Hunt were competitors for the nomination for the State Senate. As the senatorial convention was about equally divided between those two candidates they finally compromised on the nomination of Mr. Foster, who was elected over Chester Buck of Lewis county. While in the Senate during this term Mr. Foster introduced a resolution, and to him belongs the honor of procuring its passage through both Houses of the Legislature, favoring the modification of the franking privilege, and a reduction of the rate of postage (the cost of sending a single letter through the mails then being from eighteen to twenty-five cents). That was the first Legislative action taken on that subject, and although it took the general government a long time to give heed to that request from the Empire State, yet it was eventually done, and Mr. Foster lived to see that reform, initiated by him and so much needed by the people, become the law of the land. Near the close of his term he resigned, to accept the appointment of United States senator, to fill a vacancy.

In April, 1853, President Franklin Pierce appointed Mr. Foster to the office of United States district attorney for the northern district of New York. The appointment was entirely unsolicited and unexpected; the first knowledge or intimation Mr. Foster had of such intended appointment was from the newspapers. He felt compelled to decline the proffered honor, and Samuel B. Garvin, then of Utica, was subsequently appointed. In 1863 he was appointed judge of the Su-

preme Court from this judicial district for a term of eight years. Such then is a synopsis of the political and judicial life of Judge Foster, in addition to as large and important a law business as any other lawyer in Central New York, viz.: Six and one-half years surrogate; two years in Congress; eight years in the State Senate; and eight years on the bench of the Supreme Court—all of which positions he adorned and discharged their various duties with an ability, fidelity and faithfulness that were never questioned.

Bloomfield J. Beach was born in Taberg June 27, 1820, and was educated in Oliver C. Grosvenor's school in Rome, in Hamilton College and graduated from Princeton College in 1838. In 1840 he began the study of law with Calvin B. Gay in Rome and in 1843 was admitted to the bar and became a partner with Mr. Gay. In 1846 the firm of Stryker, Comstock & Beach was formed, and after that Mr. Beach had as partners A. H. Bailey and D. E. Wager, the latter connection beginning in 1874. Mr. Beach seldom appeared in court, but was eminent as counsel and in office work. During his life he was member of assembly, secretary and treasurer of the Rome Savings Bank forty-three years, president of Rome village, trustee of the Rome Water Works, director of Fort Stanwix Bank and of the First National Bank, and held many other positions of trust. Mr. Beach died in March, 1894.

Present Bar of Rome.—The bar of Rome as at present constituted comprises many men of acknowledged ability and high character. Notices of several will be found among the more extended biographies in this volume.

R. C. Briggs was born in Earlville, N. Y., October 24, 1847, and obtained his education in Whitestown Seminary and Hamilton College. He studied law with Johnson & Prescott and was admitted to the bar in 1878. He began practice alone in Rome, but for many years has been associated in partnership with W. B. Bliss. In politics he is a

Republican, and has been honored by his fellow citizens with election to the office of alderman of the Fifth ward, serving three years, and is now in his second term as special county judge, his second term beginning January 1, 1896.

W. B. Bliss, partner with Mr Briggs, is a native of Rome and was born September 7, 1838; he is a son of John Bliss. Educated in the Rome Academy, he studied law with George F. Bicknell, also with Foster, Johnson, Boardman & Lynch, and graduated in the Albany Law School in 1861. He began practice in Lee Center, but towards the close of the war of the Rebellion he joined the army as first lieutenant of Co. L, 15th Engineers, and served to the end of the war. Returning he located in Rome and has continued in active practice since. He has held the office of special county judge two terms and during his second term was elected county judge to fill a vacancy, and at the end of a year was elected for the following term. He has also served one term as surrogate. He is Republican in politics.

Eugene A. Rowland was born in Boonville February 29, 1864; received his education in the Rome schools and Colgate University, where he graduated in 1884; studied law with Johnson & Prescott, was admitted to the bar in 1887 and was appointed United States commissioner in 1890 and is now in that office. He is Republican in politics.

John D. McMahon, born January 28, 1859, was educated in the Rome Academy, studied law with Johnson & Prescott and was admitted in October, 1882. A Democrat in politics he was appointed city attorney in March, 1883, was made recorder in 1886 and re-elected in 1890; he resigned in 1892 and was appointed deputy attorney-general of the State, holding the office in 1893-4. He ran for Congress in 1888 and was defeated.

Andrew Delos Kneeland, born in Binghamton May 6, 1863, was educated in Colgate University and Madison University; studied law

with J. I. Sayles and John S. Baker in Rome and was admitted in January, 1888. He is a Republican and held the office of city attorney in 1892-95.

Timothy Curtin, born in Rome October 22, 1857, was educated in the high school at Ravenna, Ohio, studied law with M. D. Barnett in Rome and was admitted in 1881. He began practice in Rome and a year later formed a partnership with J. D. McMahan, which was dissolved in 1894. He is a Republican, and held the office of justice of the peace and ran for the office of Recorder in 1882.

John S. Baker was born in Salem, N. J., in 1844, received an academic education in the Charlotteville (N. Y.) Seminary, studied law in the Albany Law School and three years with Pomeroy & Southworth and was admitted to the bar in 1866. He has practiced in Rome ever since. He is a Republican in politics, held the office of alderman 1878-80, was a member of the Board of Education, 1880-82, was recorder in 1891 (to fill vacancy). He is at present a member of the Water and Sewer Commission.

Edward L. Stevens was born March 10, 1834, graduated from Union College in 1855, and from the Albany Law School. He has been in active practice in Rome since 1857, and has held the offices of president of the village, mayor of the city, etc.

Stoddard M. Stevens was born in Rome February 25, 1863, is a son of E. L. Stevens. He was educated in the Rome Academy and was graduated from Cornell University in 1885. He studied law with his father in Rome and was admitted in January, 1888. His politics are Democratic.

E. O. Worden was born in Annsville April 17, 1849, was educated in the district schools, and studied law with Nock & Briggs, James P. Olney, and John S. Baker, to June, 1883, when he was admitted to the bar at Buffalo. He has been in active practice in Rome ever since; is a Republican in politics and in 1893 was chosen special county judge.



A. W. Foster

Howard C. Wiggins was born in Floyd July 12, 1865, was educated in Whitestown Seminary and in the law department of Union University. He was admitted to the bar in May, 1888, beginning practice in Rome. He has since had as partners A. D. Kneeland and James P. Olney, dissolving the latter in 1893. A Democrat in politics, he has held the office of recorder of the city, 1892-94, to fill a vacancy, is one of the Police and Fire Commissioners, a trustee of the Oneida County Savings Bank and a manager of the Rome State Custodial Institution.

J. P. Gubbins was born in New Haven, Conn., June 15, 1864, was educated in the district schools and Rome Academy; studied law with John S. Baker and was admitted to the bar in November, 1890. He is a Republican and is now in his second term as justice of the peace.

G. R. Cornish was born in Lee Center November 29, 1856, he was educated in the Lee schools, studied law with Barnett & Bronner and was admitted in 1885. He has practiced in Rome since 1887, is a Republican, and has been city attorney since March, 1896, succeeding A. D. Kneeland. He was appointed canal collector in the Rome office in 1895.

George S. Klock was born in St. Johnsville, Montgomery county, N. Y., January 6, 1859. He received his education in district schools of his native place, at Fort Plain, and in Whitestown Seminary. He studied law with W. E. Scripture in Rome. was admitted to the bar in 1880, and has ever since practiced in Rome. He is a Republican in politics, was elected to the office of district attorney in 1892 and re-elected in 1895.

Harvey S. Bedell was born in Verona village, July 30, 1839. He was educated in the Vernon Academy, studied law with Conklin & Throop and with Sterling V. Hadley in Waterloo, N. Y., and was admitted in October, 1861. He began practicing in Rome in the following year and continues to the present time. In 1863 he was elected

special surrogate; in 1869 school commissioner and has been a member of the Board of Education and of the Water Commission. His politics are Democratic. He is now acting as attorney for the receiver of the Central Bank.

A. F. Sayles was born in Plymouth, Chenango county, N. Y., November 16, 1858, studied law with J. I. Sayles in Rome and was admitted in March, 1880. He practiced at North Western five years and has since been a partner with J. I. Sayles. He is a Republican in politics; held the office of postmaster in North Western, and in the spring of 1895 was elected alderman of the First ward of Rome.

D. F. Searle was born in Westmoreland, and received his education in Whitestown Seminary and Hamilton College. He studied law with J. I. Sayles in Rome, and was admitted to the bar in April, 1884. In 1887 he became a partner with J. I. Sayles and A. F. Sayles.

Joseph Porter was born in Springfield, Mass., September 4, 1846. He was educated in Whitestown Seminary, and served three years in Co. E, 2d N. Y. Heavy Artillery. He is a Republican, and has served as clerk of the Board of Supervisors and as assessor.

C. H. Dunning is the son of Richard Dunning, and was born in Rome in 1852. He received his education in the Rome Academy, and was one year in Hamilton College. He studied his profession with E. L. Stevens, and was admitted to the bar in October, 1876. He has taken an active part in Democratic politics, was appointed city attorney in 1879; was elected recorder in 1882 for four years, and in 1887 was again chosen city attorney, holding the office until 1891. On December 1, 1893, he was appointed postmaster of the city of Rome.

Charles Carmichael was born in Western, October 29, 1855. He was educated in the public schools and Cazenovia Seminary, studied law with J. S. Baker and W. E. Scripture, and was admitted April 8, 1881. He has always practiced in Rome. A Democrat in politics, he was appointed city attorney in 1881 and again in 1892. He was elected recorder in March, 1894.

John E. Mason was born in Western, August 31, 1870; was educated in the public schools and Rome Academy. Studied with McMahon & Curtin, and was admitted in 1896. He has held the positions of clerk of the Recorder's Court; clerk of the Excise Board and clerk of the Board of Assessors.

S. E. Spinning was born in Lee, August 6, 1862, graduated from Cazenovia Seminary in 1885, studied law with W. H. Kenyon, Oswego, and was admitted February 13, 1890. He has practiced in both Oswego and Rome. He is a Democrat and was elected justice of the peace in March, 1894.

J. S. Schwarz was born in Philadelphia, N. Y., August 19, 1862; was educated in Canisius College, Buffalo, studied law with H. F. Bedell, Rome, and was admitted in January, 1885. He has practiced since in Rome, is a Democrat in politics, held the office of special surrogate in 1893, and was justice of the peace eight years from 1888.

M. H. Powers was born in Annsville, Oneida county, June 10, 1851, and is a son of James Powers. He received his education in the district schools, with a short period in Clinton Liberal Institute, and studied law with H. O. Southworth, Barnett & Sayles, and in Hamilton College Law School, where he finished in 1874. He began practice at West Branch, in this county, continuing there two years, when he located in Florence and remained eight years. The past twelve years he has been in successful practice in Rome. His politics are Democratic.

Isaac J. Evans was born in Oriskany, July 20, 1853. He was educated in Whitestown Seminary, graduating from the classical department. He studied law with W. B. Bliss and with Barnett & Sayles, afterwards attending the Albany Law School one year. He was admitted in May, 1876, and has since practiced in Rome. He is a Republican in politics and was elected special county judge in 1883 serving one term of three years, at the close of which he was elected county judge.

H. S. Wilson was born in Lee, Oneida county, August 29, 1834, and educated in Whitestown and Fairfield. He studied law with C. M. Greene at West Branch and Pomeroy & Southworth in Rome, and took a course at the Albany Law School. He has practiced in Florence, in Minnesota ten years, in Santa Rosa, Cal., five years, and then located in Rome.

CHAPTER XXI.

THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

The history of the Oneida County Medical Society is given in Chapter XXIII of Volume I, with many other details connected with this profession. The first meeting of that society was held in Rome on July 1, 1806, and among the physicians who attended this meeting are found the names of the few who were practicing hereabouts at that early date. In the proceedings of the society since that time the medical men of Rome city and town have borne an honorable part, as already recorded. Following are brief sketches of many of the leading physicians of the present time :

THE MEDICAL PROFESSION IN ROME.

Edwin Evans was born in Whitestown, March 25, 1845, graduated from the Whitestown Seminary in 1867; studied medicine in Utica, and entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New York in 1870. Prior to that time he studied at Ann Arbor, Michigan, and one year in New York city. He also took a course in a post-graduate school in Philadelphia. He is a member and ex-president of the Oneida County Medical Society and a member of the State Medical Society.

Thomas G. Nock was born at Windsor Locks, Conn., August 13, 1860, and received his education in the Rome Academy and Williston Seminary, East Hampton, Mass. He studied medicine in the medical department of Syracuse University, graduating in 1883. He studied also with Dr. M. C. West after graduation. After practicing a few months he was appointed house physician of Rochester City Hospital,

then spent six months in Brooklyn, going from there to Boston, where he was three months in Murdock Hospital. He next spent one year in Rome, after which he was house surgeon in a New York Cancer Hospital for seven months, down to 1890, and since that time he has practiced in Rome.

A. A. Gillette was born in Steuben, April 21, 1856, was educated in the Rome schools, Rochester University, and graduated from the medical department of Michigan University in 1881. After practicing ten years in Westernville he located in Rome.

Charles E. Fraser, jr., was born in Delta, Oneida county, July 6, 1850. Was educated in Whitestown Seminary; the medical department of Michigan University and Bellevue Medical College, New York. From 1871 to 1882 he practiced in Lee Center, since which time he has been in Rome. He is a member of the Oneida County Medical Society and the American Medical Association, and has been medical superintendent of the county alms house.

J. Harris Oxner was born in Herkimer county in 1842, was educated at Fort Plain, and in the Poughkeepsie Business College. He studied his profession at Ann Harbor, Michigan, graduating in 1880, and has practiced in Rome since.

A. E. Dietrich was born in Rome January 8, 1869, was educated in the Rome Academy, studied medicine in Long Island Hospital, graduating in March, 1893. In the fall of that year he began attendance for one year in the Rome Custodial Asylum, and in January, 1895, began practice in Rome.

J. Middleditch was born in England, November 23, 1854, received his education in the public schools of Binghamton, and the Gilbertsville Academy. He studied medicine with H. H. Wicks at Gilbertsville, and graduated from the medical department of the University in Buffalo in 1881. After practicing for a time at Gilbertsville he settled in Rome in 1891.

Richard Eskridge Sutton was born at Great Mills, St. Mary's county, Md., September 15, 1831. He was educated at Charlotte Hall Academy, Md., graduating in 1847, and had read medicine long before that with his father, who was an eminent physician. He graduated from the University of Maryland, March 10, 1851, before he was twenty years old. From that time until 1856 he practiced in Great Mills, went thence to Russia, Herkimer county, N. Y., for three years, and then to St. Johnsville. From there at the breaking out of the war he went as surgeon of the 115th Regiment, resigned on account of illness, and after recovery became a volunteer surgeon. Since the close of the war he has practiced in Rome. Dr. Sutton held the office of city chamberlain about twenty years.

J. R. Post was born in Picton, C. W., in 1849, was educated in Toronto University, graduating in 1872. Beginning practice in Florence, Oneida county, he continued there thirteen years, removed to Rome in 1884, and has continued in active practice ever since.

Thomas P. Scully was born in Greenbush, N. Y., 1860, studied medicine in Albany Medical College, graduating in 1885. He practiced five years in Cohoes, and since that time in Rome.

Dr. James H. Whaley was born in Verona, October 18, 1861, and is a son of Dr. James Whaley, and grandson of Dr. Alexander Whaley, one of the pioneer physicians of the county. He was educated in Rome Academy and Cornell University and studied medicine in Bellevue Hospital College, graduating in 1888. He has practiced in Rome.

Homeopathic.

A. B. Southwick was born in Sangerfield, June 20, 1840. He graduated from Hamilton College with the degree of A. B. in 1863, and three years later was given the degree of A. M. He studied medicine in the Homeopathic School in Waterville with Dr. E. A. Munger, and afterwards attended lectures in the Homeopathic Medical College of

Pennsylvania and in the New York Homeopathic College. He has practiced in Rome ever since, and is a member of the Oneida County Homeopathic Medical Society; of the New York State Homeopathic Society and the American Institute of Homeopathy.

N. C. Scudder was born in Rome, August 14, 1853, was educated in the Rome Academy and graduated from Hahnemann Medical College in 1879. He practiced one year in Camden and one year in Frederick, Md., since which he has continued in Rome. He is a member of the Oneida County Homeopathic Society, was its president in 1888, and is now its secretary and treasurer. He is a member of the State Medical Society and of the American Institute of Homeopathy and consulting and attending surgeon in the Utica Homeopathic Hospital.

The Gifford Family.—John Gifford was born in the town of Westport, Bristol county, R. I., March 9, 1800, the youngest child of John and Isabel Gifford, the family tracing its descent far back into English history. Three centuries before the conquest of England by Duke William (in the eleventh century) we find them seated at Honfleur in Normandy. At the battle of Hastings in 1066 Sir Rudolph De Gifford was one of the conquerer's standard bearers and was rewarded by him with lands in Somersetshire and Cheshire, which were created into a Barony, from which his descendants were summoned to Parliament. In the reign of King Henry II Sir Peter Gifford married Alice, daughter and heiress of Sir Grey de Corbuchin, with whom he had the lordship of Chillington in Cheshire which was the seat of the Duke of Buckingham of this family.

Sir Stephen Gifford, son of Peter, was one of the barons accompanying Richard Coeur de Lion to the Holy Land and was killed in the siege of Jerusalem and his son Stephen was wounded. This family enjoyed great distinction in the English court for several centuries and no less than five peerages existed in it at one time. Baron George Gifford, descendant of Stephen, was made Earl of Buckingham by King Henry



JOHN STRYKER.

V and afterward by Edward V and created Duke of Buckingham and married Maud Plantagenet, the king's cousin. His son George, Duke of Buckingham, being by the tyrant King Richard III detected in the act of corresponding with the Earl of Richmond (Henry VII) he was attainted of treason and beheaded by Richard's orders; he however left several small children, but as they had been deprived of their lands and titles the mercenary king, Henry VII, found it more convenient not to restore them, and Humphrey Stafford, who married the king's oldest daughter, was created Duke of Buckingham. Through the reign of King Henry VII, Queen Mary, and Elizabeth the Giffords ineffectually put their claims before the English Parliament. Still later Ambrose Gifford, in the reign of James I, claimed before the house of peers to be Duke of Buckingham. Walter Gifford, son of Sir Ambrose, emigrated from England to Massachusetts Bay in 1630 and was the original of the American branch of this ancient family.

Recompense Gifford, son of Walter and grandfather of the late John Gifford, was born in the early part of the 17th century and followed the occupation of a farmer at Tiverton, R. I. His son John, father of John, first named in this sketch, was born in Rhode Island in 1774. His mother, whose maiden name was Isabel Milk, was born in 1753, the former living to the age of seventy-seven while the latter lived to be ninety-three years. They were both religious people, the former a Baptist and following the occupation of a farmer, and filling the pulpit on the Sabbath; the latter belonged to a society of Friends. They were the parents of twelve children, all living to the years of maturity, some of them filling responsible positions; all have passed away. John Gifford (first above named) attended the village school until he was fifteen years of age. At this age his desire to see more of the world than could be seen in the little village of Westport induced him to leave his parental home. He followed the ocean five years, visiting many ports of the old world. Not satisfied with the life of a sailor, he next

learned the trade of painting and chair-making. Hearing promising accounts of the Black River country in York State, he next turned westward, traveling the entire distance on foot.

He arrived in Watertown late in the summer of 1822; here he commenced to erect a shop in September of that year. In his business he was very successful for nearly five years. This shop was consumed by fire in August, 1827, leaving him penniless. With assistance, he, in September of the same year, commenced to erect a new shop which is the present Hitchcock lamp factory. In this shop he continued in business until 1836.

He married the only daughter of Col. John Gotham, July 26, 1827, with whom he lived nearly forty-nine years. In 1837 he turned his attention to farming. He removed his family, consisting of wife and six children, to Lewis county and on a farm comparatively new he commenced his new occupation, in which he showed much energy and ability; but the struggle was against fearful odds. He returned to Watertown in 1841 where, after leasing a farm for three years, he located in 1844 on the one which he occupied up to the time of his death, which took place September 10, 1880. He reared a large family, nine of whom survive him, respectively representing the varied positions of their ancestry. Among them we find men of the learned professions, the mechanic and the farmer. Mr. Gifford's theology was a belief in the universal salvation of mankind. In his politics he was strictly Democratic, never sacrificing principle to party. Radical in his plans, discreet in the application of modern scientific improvements; he was in the main executive in all he undertook; he made farming pay. His devotion to business continued to the end of his life, he was large hearted, had a retentive memory and easy communication. He was a kind neighbor, a true friend, and most loving father, and in the home circle and community in which he lived he was greatly missed.

Dr. Alden Gifford, son of John, was born in Watertown in November, 1831. He received his education in his native town and in the commercial college at Poughkeepsie, and in Chicago. He is a graduate of the old Hahnemann Medical College of Chicago, and began practicing in Rome in 1879, and has thus continued ever since. He is a member of the Homeopathic Medical Society of Oneida County and has been a member of the State Society.

The oldest dentist in Rome is S. F. Tremain, who was born in Vienna and received his education in Cazenovia Seminary. He then entered the office of Dr. Perkins in Rome, where he remained several years and began practice in Vernon. A few years later he returned to Rome, bought out Dr. Perkins and practiced almost thirty-five years in the rooms where he learned his profession. W. F. Tremain is his son and studied with his father and graduated from the Philadelphia Dental College in 1889. Five years ago they occupied their present commodious offices on West Dominick street.

G. H. Lloyd was born in Utica, March 7, 1854. He graduated from the Philadelphia Dental College, practiced in Rome three years, followed by seven years' practice in New York city, since which time he has done a large business in Rome.

CHAPTER XXII.

MANUFACTURES.

In the early years of its history and down to about the last quarter of a century, Rome had little to boast of in the line of manufactures. Nearly destitute of water power and without other natural resources that could be made available in this direction, it is not strange that extensive manufacturing industries were not established here. There were the usual village shops where hats, boots and shoes, wagons, tin-ware, etc., were made, many of which with the names of the proprietors have been described in foregoing pages; but within the past twenty-five years a number of large industries have been founded in Rome that have been of great importance in adding to her population and wealth.

Among these is what is now known as the Rome Brass and Copper Company, the large product of which embraces brass, copper, and German silver in sheets, wire, rods, tubes and plates, and various novelties in these metals made from blanks and shells. This company originated in what was called the Rome Iron Works, which were established in 1866 for mining, smelting and manufacturing iron and steel, re-rolling rails and bars and the mining and sale of coal. In 1878 the manufacture of brass was added and in 1887 the working of copper was begun. On October 20, 1891, the name of the company was changed to its present title, with S. O. Scudder, president; William R. Huntington, vice-president; J. S. Haselton, secretary and treasurer. Mr. Scudder was one of the original stockholders and was chosen president in 1884. At his death Mr. Huntington was made president, and W. J. P. Kingsley vice-president. Mr. Huntington succeeded B. W. Will-

iams as vice-president. The practical management of the business is in the hands of J. S. Haselton, to whom much of its success is due. From 300 to 400 hands are employed.

The Rome Manufacturing Company was organized under State laws April 1, 1892, with a capital stock of \$15,000, which was increased January 1, 1893, to \$30,000. The works were started August 1, 1892, and have continued since with a regularly increasing product. The chief articles of manufacture are nickel plated and polished tea kettles, tea and coffee pots and other copper stove ware. About seventy-five hands are employed. J. G. Bissell is president; W. L. Kingsley, vice-president; W. B. Johnson, secretary and treasurer.

The Rome Merchant Iron Mill was founded in 1870, with John B. Jervis secretary and treasurer, and a number of Rome citizens associated in its management. In 1886 a reorganization was effected under its present name and management. The name of the company indicates its character, and the output is in the neighborhood of 12,000 tons of the various kinds of merchant iron annually. About 225 hands are employed. Jim Stevens is president; Samuel B. Stevens, vice-president; Charles W. Lee, secretary and treasurer; Samuel Southall, superintendent. Mr. Stevens is conspicuous in the business and commercial circles of Rome.

The Rome Iron and Steel Bloom Company was organized in 1868 for the manufacture of iron and steel directly from the ore by the Jameson patent process. The business was discontinued after a few years.

The New York Locomotive Works were organized in Rome in 1881 with Thomas G. Nock, president; H. A. V. Post, vice-president; Thomas H. Stryker, secretary and treasurer. The directors were the above named and John W. Ellis, William B. Isham, William W. Wardwell, Edward Comstock, H. M. Lawton and William M. Burr. The capital of the company was \$200,000, which was increased in 1883 by

the issue of \$100,000 in stock and \$150,000 in mortgage bonds. At a later date there were issued \$150,000 in second mortgage bonds. The necessary buildings were erected a little east of Rome city, near the tracks of the New York Central Railroad, and equipped with an immense plant of machinery adapted for the building of locomotives. The business continued thus a number of years, during which engines were built for most of the prominent roads in the country and were shipped from Maine to Texas, from New York to the Pacific coast. Mr. Nock died in 1890 and Thomas H. Stryker was made president of the company. Previous to this time Mr. Stryker had resigned as secretary and treasurer and H. M. Lawton was appointed to the position. In the course of time the period of general business depression that swept over the country had a marked effect on the business of this company, as it did upon all others, and finally, in January, 1892, the works went into the hands of receivers in the persons of Thomas H. Stryker and Edward Comstock. The business was shut down, and in September, 1892, the property was sold and bid in by the holders of the second mortgage bonds, subject to the first mortgage. In 1893 a new organization was effected under the name of the Rome Locomotive and Machine Works, with Thomas H. Stryker, president; William B. Isham, vice-president; Edward Comstock, secretary and treasurer, and H. A. V. Post and Ralph N. Ellis, in addition to the foregoing as directors. The capital was made \$150,000 in stock and \$150,000 in the first mortgage bonds. In December, 1863, a disastrous fire burned the main machine shop, and the boiler and the smith shops. These were largely rebuilt in the following year. The capital of the company has since been reduced by the payment of the first mortgage bonds and the issue of new bonds of only \$75,000. Since the appointment of receivers, the works have been operated to some extent, to finish uncompleted work and on general machine work, the building of new engines having been at least temporarily discontinued. The affairs of the orig-

inal company are not yet wholly settled. The company is now engaged in the experimental manufacture of the Hardie compressed air motor for the American Air Power Company. This new motor promises to revolutionize all street and suburban transit. The motor is the invention of Robert Hardie.

The Fort Stanwix Canning Company was incorporated in 1887 with \$20,000 capital. Burt Olney was president; J. P. Olney, treasurer, and J. O. Waldo secretary. The business had originally been organized by Burt Olney and J. Lloyd Jones; the latter retired from the business in February, 1896. The Olney Brothers are sons of William R. Olney, who with Homer T. Fowler started the Rome Canning Company in 1881. That business was merged in the Fort Stanwix Company in 1893. The canning of vegetables of all kinds is conducted on a very large scale, a farm of 150 acres constituting a part of the equipment, and a capital of \$100,000 being now represented. J. P. Olney studied for a lawyer, practiced for ten years in Rome until his father's death in 1889.

The Rome Steam Knitting Mills were founded in 1878 by Clarence E. and E. Stuart Williams. The former died February 4, 1892, but his estate is still represented in the business. In 1879 James L. Williams, father of the two just named, became connected with the establishment. About 300 hands are employed in the manufacture of Balbriggan underwear.

W. E. Donahue came to Rome in 1882 and learned the plumbing business, working at his trade until 1888 when he started for himself. He has since built up a successful industry in all branches of the business.

In April, 1891, R. M. Wilson, a native of Pennsylvania, established himself on the historical site of the old United States arsenal (see earlier chapters of this volume), in the manufacture of copper goods, to which he added in 1892, the production of brass. His principal articles of

manufacture are solid copper bath tubs, water closets, tanks and seats, copper sinks, boilers, etc. His extensive additions to the old stone structure give him now six large buildings, in which are employed about 125 hands.

W. J. Doyle learned the machinist's trade with the Rome and Watertown Railroad Company. and in 1879 formed the firm of Doyle & Co., proprietors of the Rome Revolver Forks. Two years later his partner retired and he joined with C. F. Hotchkiss in the manufacture of saddlery hardware, continuing three years. In 1887 W. J. Doyle became sole proprietor of the general machine shop which he now operates. In 1892 he became also associated with James A. Spargo in fine wire drawing, under the name of the Electrical Wire Works

Edward Barnard, born in Lee, June 17, 1851, learned the harness making trade with Keith & Barnard, and later located in Morrisville where he purchased a shop and conducted it five years. Returning then to Rome he bought out his former employers and began a large line of manufactures of harness and horse goods for the trade. Among his productions are patent horse boots, halters, etc., and general saddlery hardware. Mr. Brainard is a director in the First National Bank of Rome.

The Rome Textile Company was organized in June, 1895, with Arthur J. Wiley, president; John E. Irons, vice-president; and Ezra A. Vary, secretary and treasurer. The company occupied the building erected for a flour mill by Sillenbeck & Wright, more than twenty years ago. A full equipment of knitting machinery was put in for the manufacture of ladies' and children's cotton ribbed underwear. The capacity of the factory is 150 dozen daily and seventy-five hands are employed.

The firm of Carpenter & Dyett (E. C. Carpenter and J. S. Dyett) was formed in 1886 for the manufacture of cot and crib frames, and folding chairs. This industry has developed into a large and important business. Previous to the formation of the firm Mr. Dyett was twenty-



DAVID UTLEY.

five years in the grocery trade, and Mr. Carpenter was a member of the firm of A. Ethridge & Co., and Tuller & Carpenter, wholesale grocers. He is president also of the Rome Metallic Bedstead Co., started in January, 1896, and promising well for the future.

H. C. Maxwell began the manufacture of saddlery hardware in Rome in 1881. In 1885 T. J. Mowry acquired an interest in the business, and the firm of Maxwell & Mowry continued four and one-half years, when Mr. Mowry retired. The business was carried on under the name of the Maxwell Co., Limited, until 1893, since which time it has been carried on under the name of H. B. Maxwell, son of the former proprietor.

The firm of S. H. & B. H. Beach purchased the lumber business of G. V. Selden & Co. in 1892. On April 1, 1896, they acquired all the lumber manufacturing interests of Selden & Van Wagenen, who had carried on an extensive business in the manufacture of sash, doors and blinds, as successors of the above named firm of G. V. Selden & Co. The present firm deal solely in lumber.

One of the old and reputable industries of Rome is the Adams Foundry and Machine Works, established in 1835 by Eri Seymour and Sanford Adams, father of Sanford, jr. The latter learned the business with his father, beginning about 1850, and succeeded to the proprietorship of the works. In 1888 his son, Henry V. Adams, became a partner. About twenty-five hands are employed.

John F. Atkinson, a native of Canada, where he learned the wagon maker's trade, settled in Rome as an employee of Isaac Knox. In 1881 he ran the business for himself, which he has successfully continued.

W. C. White, who was born in Whitesboro, October 6, 1851, learned the trade of marble cutting there, and after working in various places, settled in Rome in 1872. He has been very successful in his business and turns out beautiful specimens of cemetery work.

J. H. Cross, a native of Ireland, learned the marble cutting business in Boonville, and located in Rome in 1867. He has since conducted a successful business in this line.

James Conley is a practical tinner and located in Rome in 1880. He now carries on a large stove and hardware store and does all kind of tin and copper work.

C. Altenbrandt learned the trade of hat making in Danbury, Conn. He came to Rome in January, 1889, and with his brother Henry opened a factory under the name of the Norwalk Hat Company. Two years later Philip Reiffert and Emmet Young became members of the company, and the factory was moved into the old rink. In 1895 Mr. Altenbrandt assumed the sole proprietorship and took the name of the Mohawk Hat Works. Stiff and soft fur hats are made, and custom work for individuals.

The Rome Steam Grist Mills were established by Welcome Hughes and J. C. Hale in January, 1892. The firm is now Hughes & Wilkinson. Custom grinding only is done.

The planing mill of W. H. George & Co. was started in the old Rome Spring Wagon Factory in February, 1896. The firm consists of W. H. George, Daniel Rees, Edward H. Owen and David Parry.

Homer T. Fowler, born in Trenton, N. Y., has been prominently connected with manufacturing in Rome many years. He graduated from the State Normal School, Albany, in 1853, studied law in Lockport and had an office for a time at Holland Patent. He located in Rome in 1872 in the office of W. E. Scripture, but remained a little over a year, when his interests in various industries required all his attention. Associated with J. Lloyd Jones he established the Rome Canning Company, before described, and was several years interested with Milton B. Fraser in the manufacture of dairy implements. He also established the manufacture of window shades in the building now occupied by the Rome Knitting Mills. He has held the office of supervisor and school commissioner.

There are three breweries in Rome, all of which are in successful operation. The brewery of Kelley & Gaheen was built in 1859 by J. D. Kelley and Lawrence Gaheen ; this was burned in 1870 and was immediately rebuilt on a larger scale. Mr. Gaheen died in April, 1888, after a long and successful business career, and was succeeded in the firm by his son, Francis J. Gaheen. The product is present use and stock ale and the capacity is about 15,000 barrels a year. Both of the proprietors are practical brewers, and at the present time Simon P. Gaheen is associated with the firm as the head brewer.

For about ten years prior to 1888 Ed. Evans had charge of the Vidvard brewery in Rome, and afterwards of the Smith brewery on Court street. In 1888 he built the establishment now operated by himself and John Giehl.

CHAPTER XXIII.

MERCANTILE ESTABLISHMENTS, ETC.

The jobbing business in groceries in Rome is creditably represented by the large houses of A. Ethridge & Co., A. P. Tuller & Co. and L. Hower, jr.

Alfred Ethridge came to Rome in 1844 and established a retail grocery on the canal under the firm name of Northrup & Ethridge. This firm was succeeded by Mr. Ethridge alone who continued to about 1877, when A. P. Tuller and Erwin C. Carpenter were admitted to the firm and the style changed to Ethridge, Tuller & Co. This firm dissolved in 1880, and the name was again A. Ethridge & Co., Alfred Ethridge and Franklin A. Ethridge being the members. A few years later James M. Ethridge was admitted. The retail trade was abandoned about 1880. (See biography and portrait of Alfred Ethridge in this volume.)

The business of A. P. Tuller & Co. was established in 1881 by Mr. Tuller and E. C. Carpenter under the style of A. P. Tuller & Co.; this firm name is still retained. Two years later Mr. Carpenter retired and James E. Barnard soon took his place. It is one of the strongest business firms in the city. Mr. Tuller was formerly a member of the firm of Ethridge, Tuller & Co., in the same line, is a director in the Farmers' National Bank, a trustee of the Rome Savings Bank, and holds various other honorable and responsible positions.

L. Hower, jr., began business in Rome in 1869 as a retail grocer with his father under the name of L. Hower & Son. This firm continued to 1883, when the senior died and the son has since carried on an extensive trade at wholesale in all kinds of groceries, flour, tobacco, etc.

The dry goods firm now doing business as the A. M. Jackson Company was formed February 3, 1896, and consists of A. M. Jackson, president; Jim Stevens, vice-president; H. W. McGwigan, secretary and treasurer. These and H. W. Van Vleck and Joseph J. Kelley are directors. This company succeeds A. M. Jackson & Co., one of the old and reliable business houses of the city.

The grocery firm of Golley & Birnie consists of A. H. Golley and M. J. Birnie and was formed in 1890, beginning trade at their present location on West Dominick street. Mr. Golley had previously been in the same trade six years on James street, where his present partner served as clerk for him. Both are natives of Lee Center.

The bookstore now conducted by the J. W. Armstrong Company is one of the oldest business houses in Rome, dating back to 1845, when it was started by Oliver C. Grosvenor. He was succeeded about 1855 by E. H. Shelley, who continued to 1875, when the business was bought by Jones & Armstrong. They continued it to 1895, when the present title was adopted and the business purchased by J. W. Armstrong.

C. G. Miller, retail dealer in shoes, began his business career in Rome as a member of the hardware firm of Alger & Miller in 1886. Two years later he retired from that firm and opened a shoe store on Dominick street. After several removals he occupied his present store in 1896.

Henry Wolff served as clerk in dry goods for H. H. Williams for thirteen years, and organized the firm of Wolff, Doyle & Co. in the same business in 1886. Three years later the firm became Wolff & Doyle and thus continued five years, when Mr. Wolff purchased his partner's interest. He occupied his present store on Dominick street in 1888.

A. F. Chase came to Rome while a boy and learned the painter's trade with A. W. Cole. He continued with him until 1876, when he

started for himself in the same business. In 1892 he opened his store on James street, and carries a good stock of wall paper, artist's materials, frames, paints, varnishes, etc.

The business in furniture now carried on by J. B. Wiggins & Son, was started by the senior member of this firm in 1875. In the next year he took his son, J. T. Wiggins into partnership. In 1884 the business was removed from the lower end of the city to West Dominick street where the firm had built a block; this burned in 1891 and was at once rebuilt.

E. A. Willoughby began his Rome business life as a clerk in the dry goods store of A. M. Jackson & Co., where he remained four years. He then became associated with John R. Edwards in the same line, succeeding the firm of R. T. Miner, the style being Edwards & Willoughby. After eight years he sold out and became superintendent for the R. M. Bingham company in the manufacture of wagons, harness, etc. In 1892 he established himself in that business and has successfully conducted it since.

In 1882 the dry goods firm of Bacon & Pillmore was formed, the members being F. E. Bacon and R. M. Pillmore. The business continued eight years, when Mr. Bacon purchased his partner's interest, and placed the stock with that of John R. Edwards in the store now occupied by them on West Dominick street, as the firm of F. E. Bacon & Co. When they occupied the present store it was enlarged fifty feet and adapted to the large trade of the house. Mr. Edwards is one of the older and more prominent business men of Rome, is treasurer of the Rome Savings Bank and has been otherwise honored.

Thomas W. Singleton, a native of England, came to Rome with his parents when he was eight years old. His father, John Singleton, engaged in the hide and leather business, which he successfully managed until 1877, when he died, and his son succeeded him. Thomas W. Singleton is a Republican in politics and was honored with the nomination for mayor, but was defeated.

The drug business of J. C. Bissell is the oldest in the line in Rome. In 1843 G. N. Bissell bought out the old Pope stand which had been in existence since 1830, and consolidated it with the business which had for some years been conducted by Chesebrough & Leonard, taking the firm name of Bissell & Leonard. Some years after the death of Mr. Leonard, C. F. Bissell was admitted to the firm, but he retired in 1882, and J. G. Bissell became a partner. The firm name of J. G. Bissell & Co. was adopted in 1883, when J. A. Owens became a partner, and continued thus to July, 1895; since which date the business has been conducted under the name of J. G. Bissell. (See biography of G. N. Bissell in this volume.)

The Stanwix Engineering Company was established in 1887 by Knight & Hopkins. The present firm was organized in 1889 and consists of Charles W. Knight, Charles C. Hopkins and James W. Kittrell. Mr. Knight is a native of Rome and has been an engineer since 1878; he stands very high in his profession. Mr. Hopkins is a native of New Jersey and a graduate of Lehigh (Pa.) University. Mr. Kittrell is a native of Mississippi, a graduate of Annapolis Naval Academy and Lehigh University. This company has been entrusted with many very important engineering works in various parts of the country, and has recently made the plans for a complete sewer system for Rome.

The clothing firm of Snow & Abbott is composed of George W. Snow and W. J. Abbott. They began business in their present location September 1, 1889, with a stock of clothing and gentlemen's furnishing goods. In the spring of 1896 they added merchant tailoring. Mr. Snow was formerly in mercantile trade in Rome.

W. J. Lasher began business in musical instruments, jewelry, etc., in 1880, over the store of Spencer & White, and removed to his present store on West Dominick street in the spring of 1892. In 1887 he added a department of art goods to his business.

N. H. Lake, a native of Otsego county, where he was born in 1824,

began his business career as clerk in Utica; five years later he went to Cooperstown, where he remained twenty years. He then located in Rome and opened a clothing store on the American corner. Ten years later he removed to his present store on West Dominick street.

E. O. Rothmund was born in Rome, a son of Peter Rothmund. In 1888 he went to New York and learned the trade of clothing cutter. Returning to Rome he entered the employ of R. B. Manning for a short time and was associated with C. D. Hildreth, but for only a short time. Since then he has conducted his merchant tailoring business successfully.

L. H. Baker, a native of Vernon, began his business life as a tailor, but after four years failing health compelled him to abandon that business. In 1864 he began as clerk for H. W. Mitchell in dry goods, and labored in that capacity until 1888, when the present successful firm of Baker & Fox was formed. Their store is on West Dominick street.

One of the oldest mercantile firms in Rome is Spencer & White, dry goods, on Dominick street. The firm is composed of Harvey D. Spencer and Henry K. White, who began trade in their present location on West Dominick street in 1856. For forty years they have occupied a leading position in the business circles of the city, and have acquired a reputation for unimpeachable integrity and vigorous enterprise.

The drug store now occupied by F. J. Hager, on West Dominick street is a landmark in Rome. It has been kept in the past by Kinney & Green, C. F. Greene, E. H. Wardwell, Palmer & Packard, Palmer & Shumway, Francis Ethridge and perhaps others. Mr. Hager began business there in that line in 1878 and has maintained the reputation of the old stand.

The enterprising jobbing firm of Barnard & Rathbun (Fred M. Barnard and Frank B. Rathbun) was organized in January, 1882. These



DANIEL WARDWELL.

young men are natives of Rome and are rapidly gaining the reputation of enterprising and successful business men.

John Cummings is one of the oldest merchant tailors in Rome, and has been in the business about fifty years. A large business has been carried on this line since 1880, which is managed by him and his son Edward W, John Cummings, jr., having established the store. The latter is engaged with Quentin, McAdam & Co., manufacturers of clothing in Utica.

The firm of Fox & Graves, dealers in coal and wood, composed of B. S. Fox and H. S. Graves, was formed in June, 1891. Mr. Fox has been the agent of the New York, Ontario and Western Railroad and the Adams Express Company in Rome, since 1883, and previous to that was with the Delaware and Hudson Company. Mr. Graves is a son of Jerome Graves who was for many years in the employ of the Rome, Watertown and Ogdensburg Railroad in Rome and is now a partner with his son in a carting business.

William H. Lewis is a native of Syracuse, and carried on mercantile business in Vernon Center about twenty years. Fifteen years ago he located in Rome in the insurance business, and represents five strong fire insurance companies. He is also an inventor of some note, among the patents taken out by him being one on a hand rake, another for an extension handle, and a third on a spring pillow.

The hardware business now carried on by Frank E. Brockett, was purchased by him in 1892 from Fred A. Tyler, and has been in existence many years. His father, J. W. Brockett, is associated with him in managing the business, though not owning an interest. The latter is a native of Herkimer county and was brought up on a farm. He was afterwards in a foundry at Westmoreland and later carried on a store there ten years. He located in Rome in 1876 as a member of the firm of Clark & Brockett, stoves and tin ware. He sold out to his partner in 1886 and traveled several years thereafter.

The name of Wardwell is a conspicuous one in the business interests of Rome. The hardware business with which this name is intimately connected is now conducted by the Wardwell Hardware Company, which was incorporated in 1895, and of which W. W. Wardwell is president; Samuel Wardwell, vice-president, and John S. Wardwell, secretary and treasurer. The foundation of the business was laid by Harmon Emerson prior to 1850. In 1853 N. M. Wardwell, W. W. Wardwell, and W. H. Doxtater succeeded to that business. In 1864 the establishment passed to Samuel Wardwell and W. W. Wardwell and was conducted under the style of Wardwell Brothers. In 1879 J. S. Wardwell became a member of the firm, the style becoming Wardwell Bros. & Co., and continuing thus until the formation of the company above mentioned. Samuel Wardwell is also cashier of the Farmers' National Bank, of which W. W. Wardwell is a director.

One of the older citizens who has long been in business in Rome is James Elwell, who was born in 1824, learned the harness maker's trade and came to Rome in 1848. In the next spring in company with Charles F. Keith he bought the business of Silas Clark on James street, which was continued eighteen years. In 1866 he went to Colorado, but returned and has since been in the loan brokerage business. He has held the offices of trustee of the village, collector, assessor, etc.

The firm of Owens, Jones & Co., dealers in all kinds of coal and wood, began business in 1875. In 1881 Mr. Jones retired from the firm and George W. Day came in. Mr. Owens is an old and respectable citizen and held the office of county superintendent of the poor six years before 1875. Previous to joining this firm Mr. Day had served as clerk in various Rome stores.

Hartman Thron, coal and ice dealer, began business in 1887. His ice house, with a capacity of 5,000 tons, is situated on the upper pond on Wood Creek. His sons Henry A. and Philip are connected with the business.

W. H. Tyler, a native of Rome and son of T. H. Tyler, began dealing in and shipping hay, which he carried on a few years prior to 1886. In that year he established a milk and cream business and opened his well known creamery on Washington street. Besides milk produced on a farm of his own, he buys from other producers and delivers to his customers.

J. W. Jeal, dealer in wall paper, paints, etc., and practical painter, learned his trade with his brother George and purchased the business of the latter in 1892.

William H. Atkinson was born in Rome in January, 1852, and is a son of William Atkinson, of Shrewsbury, England. They were in the wholesale and retail clothing business in Rome nearly forty years and retired in 1881.

William Evans and his sons, D. G. and Griffith Evans, have long been prominently identified with the meat business. William Evans began in 1865 and the two sons came in in 1872. The senior of the firm is a native of Wales, and the sons were born in Rome.

Charles F. Sturtevant, a native of Lewis county, N. Y., came to Rome when young with his parents. After engaging for a time in fruit trade he went to New York city and served as cashier in a wholesale grocery for thirteen years. During the past fifteen years he has carried on a large real estate and loan business in Rome.

Charles H. Saulpaugh has for some years carried on a large wholesale liquor trade in Rome, and is connected with various other interests. He was chosen president of the Lee Canning Company when it was organized in 1893.

The meat business of William Binks & Son was established by the senior member of the firm many years ago. The son, W. T. Binks, became a member of the firm in 1893. He is a Republican in politics, was appointed assistant chief of police in 1890, resigned March 1, 1893, and was appointed overseer of the poor of Rome, March 1, 1895.

George Houck, jr., was born in Verona and came to Rome in 1846 with his son. He learned the butcher business and started for himself in 1874 on James street. He removed to his present location in 1892.

George Scott settled in Rome about 1850 and with the exception of ten years spent in New York city has resided here since. In 1874 he began dealing in real estate and has been identified with that business ever since.

George W. Davis was born in Floyd in January, 1874, and was educated in Whitestown Seminary. During fifteen years of his early life he was engaged in teaching. A Democrat in politics, Mr. Davis was elected justice of the peace of Floyd in 1851 and served twenty years. In 1866-7 he was supervisor of his town and upon the organization of the city of Rome was elected justice of the peace and has held the office ever since. He is a director in the First National Bank.

George W. G. Kinney has carried on a large life and fire insurance and brokerage business in Rome since 1867. Previous to that time he served as clerk in the Fort Stanwix Bank. He is a Republican in politics and served seven years as supervisor of the Fifth ward.

Edward H. Walworth, son of Jesse Walworth, was born in Rome and received a commercial education. Coming to Rome from New York in 1889 he opened a school in shorthand on the Munson system, which he has since conducted. Since April, 1889, he has also filled the position of bookkeeper in the gas office. A Republican in politics, he was elected alderman of the First ward in 1894.

George D. Little came to Rome from Vienna in 1871 and served first as clerk in the dry goods store of Williams, Edwards & Co. A year later he accepted a position as bookkeeper in the Rome Merchant Iron Mills, continuing to 1875. From that time until 1881 he was teller in the Farmers' National Bank. Since that time he has occu-

pied his present position of bookkeeper in the New York Locomotive Works.

Calvin Petrie, son of Glen Petrie, is a native of Rome and received his education here. For many years he has been connected with the banking institutions of Rome, first as assistant teller in the Fort Stanwix Bank and from 1880 to 1888 as teller. From that time until 1894 he was cashier of the First National Bank, and from there returned to the Fort Stanwix as teller, which position he held until the failure of that institution.

J. M. Brainard learned photographing with J. S. Hovey, beginning in 1870. In 1876 he acquired an interest in the business of his employer, and in 1881 purchased the establishment. No more beautiful examples of this art are made anywhere than come from this studio. Mr. Brainard is a Republican, served as alderman of the First ward three years, and was appointed by Governor Flower a manager of the Custodial Asylum and was reappointed by Governor Morton.

J. C. Chapman was born in New York city, January 6, 1835. He received his education in Waterford, Conn., and joined the merchant service as a sailor. Early in the war of the Rebellion he enlisted as an officer in the United States Navy and served from August 15, 1861, to November 27, 1865. December 1, 1866, he entered the employ of the New York Central Railroad and has ever since remained with that company, filling responsible positions.

CONTRACTORS AND BUILDERS.

W. J. Cramond, a practical stone cutter and mason of long experience, began contracting and building in 1871. He has been very successful and has had charge of the erection of many prominent buildings in Rome and elsewhere. Among them may be mentioned the residence of Hon. Jim Stevens, the city hall, two brick blocks for J. B. Williams, the Rome jail, etc.

William H. Davies settled in Rome in 1853 and worked at the carpenter's trade for two years. He then went to Canada as draftsman in the engineer's office of the Great Western Railroad. Returning to Rome in 1859 he became largely employed as contractor, architect and builder. Among the prominent structures erected by him are St. Mary's, St. Peter's and St. Joseph's churches, the Glesmann block and the Kingsley block. Mr. Davies has now substantially retired from business.

H. C. Baldwin, contractor and builder, learned his trade with his father, Asher Baldwin, who located in Rome about 1836. He erected many buildings and died in 1869. Mr. Baldwin has been engaged in the construction of many buildings in Rome, especially residences, of which he has erected hundreds.

Albert Bruce, a native of Chenango county, learned the carpenter's trade in Cortland county and located in Rome in 1868. He was employed fifteen years by the Rome Iron Works as a specialist in the erection of furnaces and other structures. He then went to Kansas, where members of the same company built iron works, of which he had charge. Returning to Rome he was employed on the construction of the present brass and copper mills.

R. A. Putnam, builder and contractor, came to Rome in 1861 and has carried on his business here since. Among the many buildings erected by him may be mentioned the residences of Charles Rathbun, Burt Olney, the Father Murphy parochial residence, the woodwork on the Bingham block and many others. Mr. Putnam has also been largely engaged in building in other localities outside of Rome.

L. A. Martin was born in Floyd and moved into the town of Rome in 1869 and to the city in 1872. He is now a member of the building and contracting firm of Hilts & Martin, his partner being Ezra Hilts. Some of the buildings erected by them are the Smith-Corcoran block, the Oster block, the residence connected with the Deaf Mute

Institution, and those of James Ethridge, T. S. Mowry, A. W. Orton, George B. Selden, W. J. Doyle and others.

The contracting firm of Thomas & Gerwig (J. R. Thomas and J. W. Gerwig) was formed in 1886. Mr. Gerwig learned his trade with his father, Frederick Gerwig, deceased. Mr. Thomas is also a practical workman and both were formerly in the employ of William H. Davis. The firm has had contracts for building many prominent structures in Rome and vicinity.

HOTELS.

The reader has already learned of the building and proprietorship of many of the early hotels of Rome. The old Stanwix Hall has a long and interesting record, and its name is familiar throughout the State. It is now kept by Samuel Cox, who took it in July, 1895, succeeding Levis & Warner.

The Commercial Hotel was built by D. B. Prince for Thompson & Rowe, who kept it some years, under the name of the Thompson House. S. G. Cackett took the house in May, 1896, succeeding P. McLaughlin.

The Arlington Hotel block, one of the finest business structures in Rome, was built by D. P. McHarg in 1876. He kept it several years as a hotel and after various changes in proprietorship it was taken by S. Hodge in November, 1893.

The Mansion House was built by A. J. Sink many years ago and is now the property of Mrs. Harriett S. Farr, whose late husband kept the house fifteen or more years. It is now managed by George Bingham.

The Empire House, now kept by George W. Baynes, was built for a dwelling and rebuilt in its present shape in 1880, by Anthony Bane.

The Temperance Hotel was built in 1885 by Samuel Thalman on

the site of a block that was burned. Mr. Thalman is the proprietor of the house.

Besides these there are several smaller hotels in the city, and the Willett House, which is the property of Dr. Kingsley, but is not kept strictly as a hotel.



M. CALVIN WEST, M. D.

CHAPTER XXIV.

THE MASONIC ORDER IN ROME.¹

Roman Lodge of Free and accepted Masons, of Rome, was founded in 1799. The county of Oneida was formed the year preceding. The charter of Roman Lodge bears date February 13, 1799, and was the first issued in the new county. Hon. Robert R. Livingston, chancellor of the State of New York, was grand master; Hon. Jacob Morton, deputy grand master; Hon. Dewitt Clinton, senior grand warden; Hon. Martin Hoffman, junior grand warden; Hon. John Abrams, grand secretary. The charter is in an excellent state of preservation. The signatures of the grand officers appear upon the charter, excepting only that of the grand master.

The first officers of the lodge and named in the charter were Hon. Joshua Hathaway, master; Dr. Stephen White, senior warden; Chester Gould, junior warden. The lodge number was 82, which was changed in 1819 to 79. On March 7, 1799, the officers were installed by Oliver Collins, pursuant to the dispensation of the grand master. The lodge records from its foundation to 1835 have been lost, so that comparatively little has been learned with reference to many of the years. There were living in Rome in 1799 a number of Masons who were members of Amicable Lodge of New Hartford. They doubtless connected themselves with the new lodge, but the fact is not known. Joshua Hathaway was master in 1800; Dr. Thomas Hartwell in 1802; Isaac Lee in 1812; Numa Leonard in 1814-17; Daniel Green and Walter Colburn between 1817 and 1823; G. W. Gurnley in 1823.

For many years prior to 1824 the lodge room was located on the top

¹ Prepared by Mr. O. P. Backus.

floor of the Coffee House, a wooden structure located on the site of the building which has been for many years known as the Tibbits or Mitchell block, and now occupied by Jonas W. Armstrong and Smith & Hammann. In 1824 a subscription paper was circulated for the purpose of purchasing a site and erecting a Masonic hall. The subscription paper is in existence and contains twenty-six names. The largest contributor was Numa Leonard—" \$30 in materials and work." The aggregate of the subscriptions was \$240.50. All but \$20 of this was paid in materials and work, and was given in lumber, lime, iron ware, produce, painting, shoemaking and goods.

As a result of the subscription a lot was purchased of Henry Huntington, the title being taken in the name of Numa Leonard, who gave a declaration of trust to the lodge. Thereupon the building now standing upon the southwest corner of North Washington and Liberty streets was erected on that site. The upper floor was used as a lodge room, and called first La Fayette Hall and later Masonic Hall. Here lodge and chapter met until 1832. The lower floor of the building was occupied by Zion church until the year last mentioned, when the church acquired the title to the premises ; subsequently the Universalist Society purchased the property. Numa Leonard was again master of the lodge from 1823 to 1826; Benjamin P. Johnson, 1827 ; Joseph B. Read, 1828 and 1829.

In 1830 public feeling against Masonry had become so intense because of the alleged abduction of one Morgan, that a large number of the members dropped their connection with the lodge, which became non-selfsustaining. For several years meetings were held, the places being kept secret. The store of Alvah Mudge—he being a member—was one of the gathering places. In 1835 the few remaining members abandoned the idea of reviving the institution, and the charter was declared forfeited by the Grand Lodge.

Hon. Joshua Hathaway, the first master, was a graduate of Yale

College, class of 1787. He served in the Revolution and participated in the battle of Bennington. He also served in the war of 1812 with the rank of major, and was in command at Sackett's Harbor for a brief period. He was for many years judge of the Court of Common Pleas surrogate and postmaster.

Among the members of the lodge were Hon Samuel Beardsley. He married Judge Hathaway's daughter, became attorney-general, member of congress for several terms, being elected once by a large majority over the anti Masonic candidate. He was also a member of the State Senate, United States district attorney, and chief justice of the Supreme Court. Hon. Chester Hayden was a partner of Judge H. A. Foster; he was surrogate of Oswego county, judge of the Oneida Common Pleas, and author of a treatise on Practice and Pleading. Col. John Westcott commanded the Rome regiment at Sackett's Harbor. Dr. H. H. Pope, Hon. Samuel B. Stevens, Hon. Benjamin P. Johnson, represented this county in the Assembly for several years; Senator Wager, Gen. Jesse Armstrong, and many others who were prominent in the town and county.

In 1851 Masonry had revived to a considerable extent. Hon. Samuel B. Stevens, Gen. Jesse Armstrong, Joseph D. Gage, James Halbert and one or two others who were members prior to 1835, together with Hon. A. D. Barbour, Hon. I. S. Parker, James Tillinghast—the latter for many years general passenger agent of the R., W. & O. Railroad and now living in Buffalo, N. Y.—applied for a charter for Roman Lodge, which was granted and numbered 223. The charter was issued under the administration of R. Hyde Walworth, chancellor of the State of New York, the then grand master. The first officers were Selden A. Emerson, W. M.; Samuel B. Stevens, S. W.; Solomon Purdy, J. W.; William Brockway, S. D.; Justin J. Wells, J. D.; James Tillinghast, secretary; Justus L. Grant, treasurer; James Halbert, tyler.

The following were masters from 1853 to the present time: Robin-

son E. Smiley, 1853-54; Justus L. Grant, 1855-56; Sandford Adams, 1857-59; R. E. Smiley, 1860; William H. Doxtater, 1861-62; G. W. Baldwin, 1863; George F. Bicknell, 1864-65; Edward L. Stevens, 1866; Henry W. Pell, 1867-68; George J. Leach, 1869; Fred E. Mitchell, 1870-72; Jerome Dillenbeck, 1873-75; Charles H. Nicholson, 1876-77; Dr. J. J. Barbour, 1878; W. N. Trumpour, 1879; Dr. Edwin Evans, 1880-81; Edward Jones, 1882-83; Fred E. Mitchell, 1884-85; James A. Owens, 1886-90; Albert H. Golley, 1891-92; Arthur L. Dale, 1893-94; Charles H. Nicholson, 1895; A. Delos Kneeland, 1896.

The first lodge room was located in the Armstrong block, on the southwest corner of South James street and the Erie Canal. November 5, 1853, the room was destroyed by fire. June 24, 1856, the lodge moved into and dedicated a new hall upon the top floor of the building so long occupied by the Fort Stanwix Bank and J. H. Searles, esq., on the east side of South James street just below Dominick street.

June 24, 1857, was Saint John's Day, and was celebrated on a large scale. Hon. J. L. Lewis, grand master, delivered an address in the Baptist church. A banquet was afterwards given at the American Hotel, at which speeches were made by the grand master, and Brothers D. M. K. Johnson, Stephen Van Dresar, D. A. Ogden, Finlay M. King and D. E. Wager.

On February 14, 1871, the lodge changed its home, removing to the commodious quarters in the building on the southwest corner of Stone alley and North James street, owned by Hon. Samuel B. Stevens.

February 11, 1880, the lodge occupied for the first time the rooms in the Glessman-Hower block, now known as Masonic Hall. In October, 1892, Roman Lodge was duly incorporated under the laws of the State.

On October 4, 1894, by invitation of the mayor and common council, the Grand Lodge of the State of New York laid the corner stone of the City Hall with Masonic ceremonies, the following officers participating: John Hodge, grand master; Roderick Campbell, deputy grand master, pt.; Charles E. Ide, grand junior warden; A. D. Kneeland, grand senior deacon, pt.; H. C. Wiggins, grand junior deacon, pt.; Charles W. Cushman, grand marshal; Fred E. Mitchell, grand sword bearer, pt.; J. R. Chamberlain, grand steward; O. P. Backus, grand steward, pt.; D. F. Searle, grand standard bearer, pt.; J. C. Skinner, grand tiler; E. L. Stevens, grand secretary, pt.; A. J. Wilkinson, grand treasurer; Rev. J. H. Egar, grand chaplain, pt.

Before the ceremonies a large parade occurred, nearly six hundred Masons being in line. Rome Commandery No. 45 Knights Templar acted as an escort to the Grand Lodge. The grand master delivered an address, and was followed by Hon. D. E. Wager, a former member of Roman Lodge, who delivered a highly interesting and instructive historical discourse.

Rome Chapter No. 102 R. A. M., Fort Stanwix Chapter No. 153 R. A. M.—February 5, 1825, Rome Chapter No. 102 of Royal Arch Masons received a charter from the Grand Chapter, in which were appointed Benjamin P. Johnson, high priest; Daniel Green, king; Benjamin Rudd, scribe.

February 21, 1825, a procession was formed and proceeded to the Presbyterian church, where an address was delivered by Companion Rev. David Morris, pastor of the Baptist church, and the chapter dedicated in due and ancient form by the Most Excellent (Rev.) Ezra S. Crozier, grand scribe of the Grand Chapter.

July 26, 1826, Hon. Benjamin P. Johnson, the M. E. high priest, offered the following preamble and resolution:

Whereas, Intelligence has been received of the decease of those illustrious patriots, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, who, in "the times that tried men's souls,"

dared to pledge their "lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor," rather than submit to a foreign yoke; therefore,

Resolved, As a testimony of our respect for the memory, the virtues and services of these distinguished patriotic individuals, the members of this chapter will wear crape on the left arm for one month.

September 13, 1826, the corner stone of the Baptist church on Stanwix street was laid with Masonic ceremonies. Masons assembled from the surrounding country, resulting in a very large procession. Hon. Benjamin P. Johnson acted as grand master; E. Companion Silas Cornish as deputy grand master. An address was delivered by Rev. David Morris.

The chapter was very vigorous for several years, but finally succumbed to the prejudices of the community about 1832.

The following were the high priests of the chapter: Benjamin P. Johnson, 1825-27-30; Silas Cornish, 1828-29; Numa Leonard, 1831.

October 20, 1855, J. D. Gage and I. S. Parker, old members of Rome Chapter No. 102, with Sanford Adams, esq., Hon. A. D. Barbour, C. H. White, Rev. H. C. Vogell, J. L. Grant, and A. C. Brower, petitioned the Grand Chapter for the issuance of a charter to a new body, to be known as Fort Stanwix Royal Arch Chapter. A dispensation was granted on November 19, 1855, and a charter issued February 6, 1856.

Robinson E. Smiley was the first high priest, 1855-58; Sanford Adams, 1859; George F. Bicknell, 1860-62; D. M. K. Johnson, 1863; D. L. Boardman, 1863; Orrin Root, 1865-67; H. S. Bedell, 1868-72; F. E. Mitchell, 1873-81, 1887-89; Martin W. Smith, 1882-83; William Thom, 1884-86; W. J. Cramond, 1890; James A. Owens, 1891-92; John Jones, 1893-94; Dr. W. F. Tremain, 1895-96.

Rome Commandery No. 45, Knights Templar.—January 26, 1869, a dispensation was granted to organize Rome Commandery, and October 6th of that year, a charter was issued to it by the Grand Commandery.

The following have been E. commanders since its organization : Sir Henry W. Pell, Sir Jerome Graves, Sir George J. Leach, Sir Fred E. Mitchell, Sir Edward L. Stevens, Sir Edwin Evans, Sir James A. Owens, Sir Albert H. Golley.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

DANIEL WARDWELL.

THE Wardwell family in America descends from a name prominent in the early days of the Massachusetts colony and in Revolutionary times, and numbers among its members many representatives who have been conspicuous in State and Nation. William Wardwell, who was born in England in 1604, immigrated to this country with the Pilgrims and became a member of the first Congregational church of Boston, which was organized in 1633. His son Urial, born in February, 1639, settled in the town of Bristol, R. I., in 1681, and married Grace Giddings, by whom he had a son John, who married Phebe, daughter of Samuel Howland, on October 11, 1741. Samuel Howland was born in Bristol, R. I., May 24, 1686, and on May 6, 1708, was married by Rev. Mr. Sparhawk to Abigail Cary. Mr. Howland's father, Jabez, born in 1649, was a very active and enterprising officer under Captain Church in King Philip's war, and in 1681, after the conquest of Mount Hope, settled in Bristol. He was a son of John Howland, who married Elizabeth, daughter of John Carver, the first governor of Massachusetts. John Howland and Governor Carver were both members of the immortal band of Pilgrims who came over in the good ship Mayflower and landed on Plymouth Rock on December 22, 1620. The children of John and Phebe (Howland) Wardwell were John, born in June, 1742, married Sally Swan; Nathaniel, born March 29, 1744; Joseph, born March 21, 1747, married Betsey May; Phebe, born January 23, 1749, married James Smith; Susannah, born January 15, 1751, married Daniel Gladding; Mary (Mrs. Sanford Munroe and afterwards Mrs. Jonah Smith) and Elizabeth, twins, born January 6, 1753; Samuel, born April 25, 1755; Tabitha, born November 25, 1757, married Samuel Bosworth; Daniel, born March 29, 1760, died at sea; Allen Cary, born June 5, 1752; and Allen, born March 1, 1765, married Abigail Smith. Of this large family Joseph, the third, served in the General Assembly of Rhode Island in 1803. An ardent patriot during the Revolution his name appears in a list of subscribers to a fund raised by the people of Bristol, R. I., for the relief of the sufferers in Boston caused by the enforcement of the Boston port bill. Samuel, the eighth, was a member of the Rhode Island Assembly in 1791-93, 1793-97, 1809, and 1810, or nine years in all. Subsequent assemblymen bearing the name were Nathaniel in 1821-23, Hezekiah C. in 1849-51, and William T. C. in 1870-71 and 1875. The latter was State senator in 1872.

Samuel Wardwell, above mentioned, father of Judge Daniel Wardwell, enlisted at the age of twenty in the Rhode Island militia and served two years in the Revolutionary war, being taken prisoner by the British and confined in a prison ship in

New York. After the war he became prominent in the military service of Rhode Island. In June, 1794, a charter was granted to the Bristol Train of Artillery, the charter members being Mr. Wardwell, William De Wolfe, Samuel V. Peck, and John Bradford, and at the first election of officers on April 7, 1796, Samuel Wardwell was chosen captain with rank in the militia of lieutenant-colonel. This company, by its charter, was made independent of all regiments; when in active service it was to be under the command of the governor of the State only. Its members, which, exclusive of officers, "must not exceed sixty-four in number," were exempted from bearing arms or doing military duty in the militia of the State. In 1797 two brass field-pieces, said to have been captured from the British at the surrender of Burgoyne, were presented to the company by the State, "to be fired on all public occasions," and they are still used for the purposes specified. Col. Samuel Wardwell, under the firm name of Bourne & Wardwell, was also prominently identified with the commerce of Bristol prior to the beginning of this century. The firm owned at one time forty-two vessels and for many years carried on an extensive shipping business. The year Oneida county was formed (1798) Colonel Wardwell purchased in one body 4,000 acres of land in the town of Ellisburg (now Jefferson) then in the county of Oneida. This purchase included the site of the present village of Mannsville. In 1812 he settled at what is known as the "Ridge" in Rome, N. Y., where were then located a grist mill and saw mill. There he purchased 285 acres of land, tore away the old grist mill and erected a new one (on the site of the Rome water works), which stood until 1868. In 1815 he sold forty acres and the business part of the "Ridge Mills" to David Driggs, and the remainder of his land to the grandfather of the late Dr. M. Calvin West.

The children of Col. Samuel and Lydia (Wardwell) Wardwell were Nathaniel, born September 20, 1778, married Dolly Fales, and died in Ellisburg, N. Y., November 16, 1857; Nancy, born September 25, 1780, married John M. Bourne, and died at Providence, R. I., in 1856; Jonathan, born January 30, 1783, died at sea in 1805; Sarah, born January 21, 1785, married Thomas Peckham; Lydia, born September 10, 1786, married Allen Smith; Samuel, born June 14, 1788, married Hannah Monroe, and died at Mannsville, N. Y., in 1857; Mary, born November 28, 1789, married Joseph C. Wood, and died at Ellisburg, N. Y., in June, 1819; Daniel the subject of this memoir, hereafter mentioned; Henry, born July 9, 1792, was made lieutenant on board the privateer "Yankee" in October, 1814, in the war of 1812-15, and died at Havana, Cuba, in August, 1816; Abby, 1st, born September 17, 1793, died in infancy; Abby, 2d, born December 31, 1794, married Henry Wright; and three who died in infancy.

Hon. Daniel Wardwell was born in Bristol, R. I., May 28, 1791, was graduated from Brown University in his native State in 1811, and in 1812 removed with his father to Rome, Oneida county, where he entered the law office of Judge Joshua Hathaway, one of the pioneer lawyers of Fort Stanwix. In 1813 Mr. Wardwell became a student in the office of Gold & Sill, of Whitesboro; in 1814 he was admitted to the Court of Common Pleas in Jefferson county; and in January, 1815, he was admitted to the Supreme Court as attorney. In those years he was residing in Adams and Ellisburg, looking after the large landed interests and other property of his father in that part of Jefferson county. In 1816 he became a resident of Rome village, where he practiced his profession during that year and 1817. He then re-

turned to Jefferson county and remained until 1821, when, in January, he was admitted to the Supreme Court as counselor. Early in 1821 he opened a law office in Utica and in August was admitted as counselor to the U. S. District Court. In 1822 he took up his permanent residence in Mannsville, N. Y., where he and his brother-in-law, Major H. B. Mann, erected a large cotton factory, which was totally destroyed by fire in 1827, when just ready to begin operation. Its destruction entailed a loss to the owners of \$10,000.

In 1824 Mr. Wardwell was appointed by Governor Yates side judge of Jefferson county, where he was elected to the Assembly in 1825, 1826, and 1827. In 1826 he caused considerable commotion in Albany, New York, and the river counties by introducing and advocating in the Assembly a resolution favoring the removal of the State capital to Utica or some other central point. In 1828 there was great political and anti-Masonic excitement in this State. Gen. Andrew Jackson was running for president, De Witt Clinton for governor, and Judge Daniel Wardwell for State senator—all strong Masons high in the order. It was one of the anti-Masonic years. The State was then divided into eight districts, with four senators from each district, and one senator was elected in each district every year. The Fifth district then comprised the counties of Oneida, Jefferson, Herkimer, Lewis, Madison, and Oswego. The term of Charles Dayan, of Lewis county, as senator, expired, and in 1828 Judge Daniel Wardwell and William H. Maynard, of Utica, were opposing nominees. Mr. Maynard was one of the brightest legal luminaries of the Oneida county bar; the anti-Masons endorsed him; and as Judge Wardwell was never afraid to "wear his principles on his coat sleeve," he was defeated by about 300. In return the Jefferson county congressional district elected him to Congress for three successive terms, beginning in 1830. He had as his colleague during his entire congressional service his first fellow law student, Hon. Samuel Beardsley, with whom he retained a warm personal and political friendship for many years, especially during Andrew Jackson's stormy administration, of which they were staunch supporters, both being warm personal friends of the president. Judge Wardwell was elected for the fourth time from Jefferson county in 1837, and that year was a member of the committee on ways and means. In 1860 he removed to Rome, where he died, universally respected, in March, 1878.

In politics Judge Wardwell was a staunch Democrat of the Jacksonian school until the division of the Democracy in 1848, when he affiliated with the "Free Soil" wing. In 1856 he was a delegate to the Pittsburg convention which nominated John C. Fremont for president, and ever after was as firm a Republican as he had been a Democrat in the palmy days of "Old Hickory." Judge Wardwell was not a legal advocate, nor did he engage to any extent in the argument of causes in courts; but he was a good, sound lawyer and a safe counselor, one whose judgment and legal advice were sought after by a large clientage and always relied upon as entirely safe to follow. He was widely known and esteemed, not only for his profound knowledge of the law, but also for his many attributes of head and heart. His integrity was never questioned. As a legislator he always labored conscientiously and unceasingly for the interests of his constituents and fully merited the trust and confidence which he received at their hands. He was kind, generous, and indulgent to the poor, a friend whose advice and counsel were often sought, and a man upon whom was placed the utmost reliance.

Judge Wardwell was married at Whitesboro, N. Y., on July 20, 1815, by the Rev. John Frost, to Miss Hetty Mann, daughter of Hon. Newton Mann (whose sketch appears in this work). She was born at Attleboro, Mass., December 16, 1796, and died at Mannsville, N. Y., September 28, 1858. Their children were Abby Mann, born April 11, 1817, married Robert B. Doxtater, and died in 1884 (Mr. Doxtater was the first superintendent of the Rome and Watertown railroad and held that position until his election as president of the Michigan Southern railroad; while riding over that line, attending to his duties, he was stricken with apoplexy, and died suddenly at La Porte, Ind., May 15, 1853, aged thirty-nine years, at the early dawn of a bright and auspicious future); Henry, born July 11, 1819, deceased; Newton Mann, born February 12, 1821, married, first, Elizabeth Jones, deceased, and second, Mrs. Antoinette (Waite) Sutton; Samuel, born November 14, 1822, admitted to the bar in 1847, married Mary A. Stillman in 1848, and now cashier of the Farmers National Bank of Rome; Julia Doolittle, born January 13, 1828, died June 11, 1831; Charles Carroll, born December 4, 1829, died May 7, 1859; William Wilberforce, born January 15, 1834, married in January, 1860, Elizabeth W. Smith, and now a leading hardware merchant in Rome; John Howland, born December 29, 1837, married Cornelia Comstock; and Edward Herbert, born April 28, 1841 married, first, Josephine Hitchcock, of Utica, deceased, and second her sister Harriet. October 4, 1859, Judge Wardwell married for his second wife, at Adams, N. Y., Letitia W. Smith, who survives him and resides in Rome.

NEWTON MANN.

THE family of this name in America descends in an unbroken line from William Mann, youngest child of Sir Charles Mann, who was born in England in 1607. At a very early day in the history of the Massachusetts colony William Mann immigrated to this country and settled in Cambridge, where he married, first, Mary Jarred in 1643 and, second, Alice Tiel on June 11, 1657, and where he died in 1662. Rev. Samuel Mann, his only son, was born there July 6, 1647, was graduated from Harvard College in 1665, and soon afterward was ordained to the ministry and settled over the Congregational church in Wrentham, where he remained until his death, May 22, 1719. He is recorded as both a "learned minister and a great man," and was the paternal ancestor of Horace Mann, the celebrated New England educator, whose statue graces the State House in Boston. May 19, 1673, he married Esther Ware, of Dedham, and among their children was Samuel, jr., who was born August 18, 1675, married Zipporah Billings, and died in 1732. Samuel Mann, jr., had thirteen children, of whom the youngest son, Dr. Bezaleel Mann, was born at Attleboro, Mass., June 15, 1724, and died there October 3, 1796; his wife, Bede Carpenter, died in 1793. Dr. Mann was an eminent physician and amassed large wealth. He was an active and influential patriot during the Revolutionary war, a member of the Committee of Safety, judge of the Superior Court of Attleboro, and a member of the committee to report upon the first constitution submitted to the people of Massachusetts. His children were Dr. Preston Mann, a graduate of Brown University and a skillful physician in Newport, R. I., where he

entertained Washington and La Fayette during the Revolution; Dr. J. Milton Mann, also a graduate of Brown University, a physician in Attleboro, Mass., and later in Troy, N. Y., and drowned in the Hudson River; Mary, who married Josiah Draper and was the mother of Virgil Draper, whose portrait and biography appear in this work; Dr. Herbert Mann, a graduate of Brown University, surgeon on the privateer General Arnold during the Revolutionary war, and frozen to death at sea; Newton Mann, the subject of this memoir, subsequently mentioned; and Eunice, who married Dr. Seth Capron, who was graduated from Brown University, studied medicine with her father, and served in the war of the Revolution.

Newton Mann was born in Attleboro, Mass., in 1770, and inherited all the noble attributes of mind and body which distinguished his scholarly ancestors. He early imbibed those underlying principles of manhood that characterize the respected citizen. His education was obtained in his native town where he remained till about 1806, when he came with Dr. Seth Capron and his family and the widow of Dr. J. Milton Mann and her children to Whitesboro, Oneida county, N. Y., for the purpose of engaging in the manufacture of cotton goods, which Dr. Capron had closely studied in New England. With Dr. Capron, Benjamin S. Walcott, Theodore Sill,¹ and Thomas R. Gold, he at once organized a stock company and erected on Sanquoit Creek, on the site of the present New York Mills, the first cotton factory in this State. Mr. Mann was the principal stockholder. The Oriskany Woolen Mill was subsequently incorporated with a capital of \$200,000 by Chief Justice Ambrose Spencer, Jovis Platt, William G. Tracy, Thomas R. Gold, Theodore Sill, Mr. Mann, and De Witt Clinton. This company imported large numbers of merino sheep from Spain, many of them costing as high as \$600 and \$1,000 each. These sheep were kept in the vicinity of the village, mainly on the opposite side of the Mohawk River, and one of their farms was called "Mount Merino." The company continued business several years and prospered until the peace of 1815 opened our markets to a flood of importations. Before the year 1825 Mr. Mann withdrew from both enterprises and moved with his family to Mannsville, Jefferson county, a village named from his son, Major Herbert B. Mann, who in partnership with Judge Daniel Wardwell (whose portrait and biography appear in this work) erected a large cotton mill there, which was burned in 1827, when ready to begin operation. There Newton Mann resided the remainder of his life, dying April 11, 1860, at the age of ninety years.

Mr. Mann was an old line Whig of pronounced convictions, but never sought nor accepted public office. An uncompromising Abolitionist himself he was a warm personal friend of Gerrit Smith, Alvin Stewart, and other noted anti-slavery advocates, and during the great abolition movement which swept over the country prior to the Rebellion he was a powerful and an active factor. For many years he was intimately acquainted with the "underground railroad;" his house in Mannsville became a noted "station," and he personally assisted in passing large numbers of slaves on to Canada. He was a devout Christian and a member of the Congregational church, and throughout life manifested a lively interest in all charitable and benevolent objects, to which he liberally contributed. Kind-hearted, enterprising, and sagacious he merited and retained the confidence, respect, and esteem of his

¹ Theodore Sill married Eliza, daughter of Dr. J. Milton Mann, and they were the grandparents of Edward Comstock, of Rome, whose portrait appears in this volume.

fellowmen and bore the highest reputation for honesty, integrity, and moral uprightness. He was a good business man, a shrewd investor, and an able financier, and realized handsome profits from his various investments.

Mr. Mann was married in 1795 to Miss Abigail, daughter of Josiah Maxcey, granddaughter of Lieut. Josiah Maxcey, of Attleboro, Mass., and sister of the Rev. Jonathan Maxcey, D.D., successively president of Brown University, Union College, and the College of South Carolina. She was born in Attleboro in 1766 and died at Mannsville, N. Y., November 17, 1860. Lieut. Josiah Maxcey, an officer in the old French war, was the owner of a slave named Cæsar, whose tombstone is standing in the graveyard at North Attleboro, Mass., and upon it appears the following epitaph, which has been reproduced in most of the magazines of the country:

Here lies the best of slaves,
Now turning into dust;
Cæsar, the Ethiopian, craves
A place among the just;
His faithful soul has fled
To realms of heavenly light,
And, by the blood of Jesus shed,
Is changed from black to white;
January 15th he quitted the stage,
In the 77th year of his age.

1780.

Mr. Mann was a person of magnificent appearance, endowed with a large but graceful physique, and in stature represented almost perfect manhood. Well-developed, dignified, and of elegant and commanding physical proportions, he was a typical gentleman of the old school. The likeness of him reproduced in this volume was taken when he had reached the age of eighty-five. At his wedding in 1795 he wore a blue broadcloth coat with crimson velvet collar falling below the point of the shoulders, a drab waist-coat and knee breeches, silk hose, low shoes with buckles containing French paste stones, and hair braided in a cue and powdered. His bride was attired in a peach-blow satin dress trimmed with brocaded satin, blue satin petticoat, peachblow silk hose, white slippers, and lace. These were elegant but not unusual costumes for those early days, and indicate the high and dignified positions their wearers occupied in society. Mr. and Mrs. Mann's married life of sixty-five years was an uninterrupted course of domestic peace and happiness. Their love and affection were simple, pure, and ardent, unmarred by the slightest infelicity, and graced by a constant and consistent devotion as beautiful as it was enduring. They were almost inseparable, especially during the latter years of their lives, and always found the highest enjoyment in each other's society. Their children were Major Herbert B., who married Julia Doolittle and was the father of the late Dr. John Preston Mann, the celebrated specialist of New York city; Hetty, who married Judge Daniel Wardwell, whose portrait and biography appear in the present volume; and Abby Maxcey, who married Dr. Roswell Kinney, of Mannsville, N. Y.

ALFRED ETHRIDGE.

ALFRED ETHRIDGE was born in Little Falls, N. Y., July 29, 1817, and is of English descent. His father, James Ethridge, was a hat manufacturer in Little Falls, sub-

sequently a farmer in the town of Herkimer, and latterly a hat maker in Herkimer village. Alfred Ethridge left home at the age of nine and spent four years on a farm; he was then at home for three years and the following year began learning the cabinet maker's trade. He then became a clerk in a grocery store in Utica at \$5 per month and board, but after one year accepted a clerkship with Dygert & Northrup, merchants, of Frankfort, N. Y., where he remained four years. During the next two years he was manager in charge of the store of Root, Berry & Co., in that village—a firm having large contracts on the Erie Canal enlargement. At the end of that period he formed a partnership with his old employer, Willet Northrup, under the style of Northrup & Ethridge, and continued the mercantile business over which he had presided as manager until 1844. During his early career Mr. Ethridge's education was necessarily limited to the practical affairs of life. He spent very little time in schools. Thrown upon his own resources, without a dollar, but endowed with pluck and native energy, he forged ahead and succeeded in accumulating a little capital. With this and his natural qualifications he engaged in business, which from the first proved generally successful.

In 1844 the firm of Northrup & Ethridge removed their goods to Rome and started trade on the east side of James street, just south of the canal, where they were burned out in January 1856, when the copartnership was dissolved. Mr. Ethridge succeeded to the business and opened a store on the northeast corner of James and Dominick streets, known as the Merrell Block, where he continued till about 1865. In the latter year he erected the present Ethridge block, on the corner of Dominick and South Washington streets, and moved into it. After several years Ackley P. Tuller became his partner under the style of A. Ethridge & Co., and later Erwin C. Carpenter was admitted to the firm. In 1875 Mr. Ethridge's eldest son, Franklin A., was given an interest and soon afterward the name of Ethridge, Tuller & Co., was adopted. January 1, 1879, the firm dissolved, Messrs. Tuller and Carpenter retiring. The concern was reorganized by Mr. Ethridge and his son, Franklin A., under the style of Alfred Ethridge & Co., and two years later a younger son, James M., was admitted. Since then the firm has remained unchanged. The business as originally started consisted of a general assortment of goods for the retail trade. Finally a jobbing business was gradually built up, and about 1875 it became exclusively a wholesale industry, with groceries, canned goods, coffees, etc., as leading specialties. Their trade has developed from modest proportions until now it reaches out into a wide area of the State and into adjoining States.

Mr. Ethridge was originally a Whig and later a Republican, and for many years took an active part in local politics. For a time he was a member of the board of supervisors, but otherwise never accepted public office. He was elected supervisor against a strong Democratic opponent in the Democratic stronghold at Rome. He always manifested a keen interest in the advancement of the city and contributed in various ways towards its material prosperity, and especially to charitable and benevolent objects. Enterprising, sagacious, and public spirited, he has throughout a long and successful career retained the confidence and respect of every one with whom he has had business or social relations. He was one of the founders and directors of the Merchants Iron Mill, and for several years was interested in many other corporations.

Mr. Ethridge was married November 5, 1851, to Miss Abby Murdock House, whose

father, Leonard, son of Eleazer and Abigail (Moseley) House, was born at Glastonbury, Conn., August 24, 1787, and died at Houseville, N. Y., December 23, 1879. Her mother, Louisa Murdock, was born in Sandgate, Vt., January 12, 1788, married Mr. House on December 28, 1809, and died at Houseville, N. Y., July 6, 1870. Mrs. Ethridge was born July 10, 1824. Mr. and Mrs. Ethridge had four children: Franklin Alfred, Isabella (born April 1, 1856, died February 29, 1872), James Murdock, and George.

M. CALVIN WEST, M. D.

THE West family, of whom the subject of this memoir was a worthy representative, is of English origin, and for generations imbibed the noble characteristics of their mother country. John West, sr., born in Shaftsbury, Vt., April 25, 1770, settled in the town of Western, Oneida county, N. Y., in 1790, and there his son, John, jr., was born December 26, 1796. In 1816 the family moved to Rome, N. Y., where the pioneer John died July 28, 1834. His wife, Harriet Stephens, whom he married January 26, 1792, was born in Connecticut on November 11, 1768, and died August 21, 1818. They had ten children, four sons and six daughters, of whom John, jr., was the fourth child and oldest son. November 26, 1821, John West, jr., married Mary J., daughter of John Driggs, who was born in Stafford, Conn., January 22, 1800, and who died January 30, 1882. Mr. Driggs came to Rome in 1804 and engaged in the manufacture of woolen goods, having a satinet factory at "Ridge Mills," and also operated grain and lumber mills until his death in 1855. Mr. West died February 6, 1860.

Dr. M. Calvin West, youngest son of John jr., and Mary (Driggs) West, was born in Rome on the 11th of September, 1834, and obtained his education in the district schools and Rome Academy, graduating from the latter institution at the age of eighteen. For a few years thereafter he assisted his father in agricultural pursuits, but his inclinations soon took a professional turn. In 1857 he went to Hagerstown, Ind., and read medicine in the office of his paternal uncle, Dr. Calvin West¹. In 1860 he was graduated with the degree of M. D. from the Medical Department of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, and during the following year continued his scientific and clinical studies with his uncle at Hagerstown. In the fall of 1861 he began the active practice of his profession in Floyd, Oneida county, where he remained until 1863, when he settled permanently in Rome. While in Indiana he was a prominent member and for a time president of the Wayne County Medical Society, and prepared and read before that body a practical paper on "Hypodermic Injection," which was published in the *Cincinnati Lancet*. He was an active member of the Oneida County Medical Society, a delegate to the New York State Medical Society, a member of the New York State Medical Association, and a permanent member of the American Medical Association. In 1865 and 1866 he was one of the

¹ Dr. Calvin West, born in Western, Oneida county, August 9, 1806, became a prominent physician in Indiana and a surgeon in the Union army in the war of the Rebellion, and died at Hagerstown on August 25, 1863.

faculty of Rome Academy and delivered a series of lectures on physiology and kindred subjects.

Dr. West was a physician of high standing and rare ability, and enjoyed an extensive practice. He possessed a cheerful and restful personality, an underlying current of humor, a keen discrimination, a large fund of information, and a sense of justice which carried the weight of conviction. Tenacious of friendship and endowed with great kindness of heart, he won universal respect and the confidence of all with whom he came in contact; careful, shrewd, and wise in business affairs he was generally successful in everything he attempted. He early won professional recognition from his associates and esteem from all classes of citizens and held them to the end. His advice and counsel were often sought. He was thoroughly identified with the prosperity and advancement of the city of Rome and always took a lively interest in public affairs. In July, 1881, he was made a member by Mayor Comstock of the first board of fire commissioners and in October following he was elected a commissioner of the Rome free schools, and held each position three years, being president of the board of education a part of the time. He was physician to the county poor house during the term of Superintendent Theodore S. Comstock, was long a director in the Central National Bank, and in January, 1891, became president of the Rome and Carthage Railroad Company, a position he held at the time of his death, which occurred in Rome on October 20, 1891. He was also a member of Rome Lodge, No. 266, I. O. O. F., and trustee of the First M. E. church of this city.

Dr. West was married November 6, 1861, to Miss Felicia H. Williams, daughter of Jesse Williams, the father of the cheese factory system in America and the proprietor of the first cheese factory in Oneida county. Their children were Olive D., Jessie J., Dr. Calvin B., F. May and Florence Mary. Dr. Calvin B. West, born in Rome, March 29, 1867, was graduated from the Rome Academy in 1885 and from Phillips Academy at Andover, Mass., in 1886, spent three years in Amherst College, and was graduated with the degree of M. D. from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New York city in 1893. After filling the position of house physician and surgeon to the Paterson General Hospital one year he came to Rome in August, 1894, and began the active practice of his profession.

JOHN STRYKER.

IN the early history of New Amsterdam the name of Stryker appears somewhat conspicuously in connection with numerous offices of trust and responsibility. It is found in the lists of high sheriffs, and in government councils as well as in business and commercial enterprises, and invariably commanded wide respect and confidence. Originally of Holland Dutch etymology, Van Strycker, it came in time to be Americanized and contracted into Stryker, the form under which several generations have flourished and prospered. Very early in the settlement of New Amsterdam Jan and Jacobus Gerritson Strycker, Dutch burghers, obtained a grant of land on Manhattan Island, and from them descends the families bearing the name in this

country at the present time. The line from Jan (1) is Pieter Strycker (2), Jan Strycker (3), Pieter Strycker (4), John Strycker (5), Daniel Perrine Stryker (6), and John Stryker (7), the subject of this memoir. October 25, 1673, Jan Strycker (3) was chosen captain of a company that was raised in the town of Midwout (Flushing), to respond to the call for troops issued by Governor Stuyvesant to resist the encroachments of the British. In 1773 John Strycker (5) was commissioned captain of a troop of light horse cavalry in Somerset county, N. J., and when the Revolutionary war broke out he offered his services to his native State. He fought with his company all through the Revolution. In 1863 his lineal descendant, John Stryker, jr., became a captain of New York State volunteers in the war of the Rebellion. Daniel Perrine Stryker (6), a merchant in New York city, married Harriet Pierson and had three sons and two daughters, of whom the last two and one son died young. Those who attained maturity were John (7) and Rev. Isaac Pierson Stryker. The latter is a retired Presbyterian clergyman residing in New Jersey and the father of Melancthon Woolsey Stryker, president of Hamilton College.

Hon. John Stryker (7) was born in Orange, N. J., December 7, 1808. His father died a few years later and at the age of seven his mother brought him to Whitesboro, Oneida county, N. Y., where he received his education in the local academy. He began active life as a clerk for William G. Tracy, a leading merchant of Whitesboro, but soon developed decided inclinations for a professional career. He read law with Thomas R. Gold and later in the office of Storrs & White, and was admitted to the Oneida Common Pleas in 1829, before he had reached his majority. In the same year he came to Rome, N. Y., and formed a copartnership with Allanson Bennett. Subsequently he was associated in the practice of law with Hons. Henry A. Foster, Calvert Comstock, Charles Tracy, B. J. Beach, George H. Lynch, and others. In 1835 he was elected member of assembly. In 1837 he was appointed surrogate of the county and held that office ten consecutive years, or until the constitution of 1846 made it elective. In 1847 he discontinued the practice of law, in which he had been very successful, and thenceforward devoted his attention to building up railroads and other important enterprises. He was one of the original movers in the Utica and Syracuse railroad project, was the first attorney for the company, was one of its directors until the lines were consolidated, and was largely instrumental in securing its location through Rome and in defeating the attempt to locate it through the southern part of the county. Afterward he was closely identified with many railway lines, including the Michigan Southern and Northern Indiana, the Terre Haute and Alton, and others, pushing them to completion and placing the corporations upon a sound working basis. He was engaged extensively in railroad operations until the fall of 1867, when he suffered a stroke of paralysis. He died at his home in Rome on April 30, 1885.

Mr. Stryker was a shrewd business man and investor, one of the foremost railroad financiers of his time, and intimately associated with such noted men as Samuel J. Tilden, Erastus Corning, Dean Richmond, and others in railway projects. His counsel and advice were regarded as reliable, his word was as good as his bond. A man of great business capacity and of unswerving integrity he retained through life the respect and confidence of every one who knew him. He was heavily interested in numerous local corporations and landed investments, and being public spirited and

enterprising always took a just pride in the prosperity of the city. He was one of the founders of the Rome Locomotive Works, one of the incorporators and a director of the Merchants Iron Mill, a director in the Rome Iron Works, and one of the originators and for some time president of the Rome Gas Light Company. He was a director in several banks and for many years officiated as president of the old Bank of Rome. He was one of the founders of the Deaf Mute Institute of Rome, and was especially active and influential in securing the Black River Canal and in changing the course of the Erie Canal for the benefit of the city.

In politics Mr. Stryker was a life-long Democrat, and during many years enjoyed a wide and intimate acquaintance among all the noted politicians of the United States, and especially among such men as James K. Polk, Gov. William L. Marey, Governor Seymour, Governor Bouck, Edwin Croswell, Silas Wright, and other equally prominent statesmen of the country. He was remarkably familiar with political history. His shrewd management as a leading politician was manifest far and near, especially in the county of Oneida, where he practically controlled his party's operations. He was long the center of the famous "Rome Regency," which represented the principal Democratic influence in this section in its time. But he did not seek office; he preferred to manage politics and direct his party's movements, for which he had a natural taste and ability and in which he was eminently successful. He probably attended more district, county, state, and national conventions than any other man of his day in New York. He was a delegate to twelve state and four national conventions and for ten years was a leading member of the Democratic State Committee. In 1867 he ran for Congress against the late A. H. Bailey and was defeated in a Republican stronghold by a very small majority.

Mr. Stryker was a great reader, and was at all times thoroughly posted, and possessed a wonderfully retentive memory, especially in political affairs. Genial, kind, and generous by nature he was a liberal benefactor to all religious, charitable, and educational objects, and for twenty years was one of the wardens of Zion Episcopal church of Rome. He was the architect of his own fortune and wisely employed it for the advancement of his city. His family homestead, which he erected about 1839, occupies the northeast corner of the historic site of Fort Stanwix and stands wholly or partly on the site of the old blockhouse.

In 1839 Mr. Stryker married Miss Frances Elizabeth Hubbard, daughter of Hon. Thomas Hill Hubbard, of Utica. [Mr. Hubbard was the first surrogate (in 1809) of Madison county, deputy attorney-general of the district comprising the counties of Oneida, Otsego, Chenango, Herkimer, and Lewis in 1816-18, district attorney of Madison county in 1818-21, member of congress six years, and presidential elector in 1812, 1844, and 1852.] She died April 17, 1891, aged seventy five years. Their children were John, deceased; Phebe, of Rome; Harriet P., wife of Edward H. Butler, a banker, and ex-state treasurer, of Detroit, Mich.; Grace, wife of Rev. E. Bayard Smith, rector of Trinity Episcopal church, of Troy, N. Y.; and Thomas Hubbard Stryker, of Rome.

DAVID UTLEY.

THE Utley family is of English extraction, and for several generations imbibed those sterling habits of thrift and frugality which characterized native New Englanders. David Utley, sr., father of the subject of this memoir, was born in Connecticut, and came from Dutchess county, N. Y., to the town of Western, Oneida county, about the year 1795, guiding himself through the wilderness from Fort Stanwix by the aid of a compass and blazed trees. An ambitious pioneer, though broken in health, he managed to clear a farm and died there when comparatively a young man.

David Utley, son of David, sr., was born of Quaker parentage in Western on February 12, 1802, and spent his youthful life upon the parental acres, attending the district schools as opportunity afforded. He remained, a farmer, in that town until 1847, and for fifteen consecutive years served his townsmen as supervisor. In this latter capacity he was one of the influential members of the board and retained the confidence and respect of all with whom he came in contact. In 1847 he became a permanent resident of Rome, where he originated and founded the Fort Stanwix (now the Fort Stanwix National) Bank, which commenced business in December of that year on the corner of James and Dominick streets. Mr. Utley was elected its first president, a position he held by re-election until it became a national bank in 1865, when he was chosen to the same office in the reorganized institution, and served in that capacity until his death on June 20, 1882. He was succeeded by his son, Harmon G. Utley, who had entered the bank as teller in 1847 and subsequently became also its vice president. Mr. Utley was one of the ten founders of the Rome Exchange Bank and served as a director of that institution and its successor, the First National Bank, for many years. He was also a director for some time in the City Bank of Oswego and in the Rome & Watertown and Mobile & Ohio Railroad Companies, and was largely instrumental in securing the location of the R., W. & O. Railroad shops in Rome. He was one of the founders and long a director of the Rome Iron Works and Merchants Iron Mill and for many years a member and vestryman of Zion Episcopal church.

Mr. Utley was widely recognized as an able financier and occupied a prominent position among leading bankers of Central New York. He was closely identified with various measures which owe a large measure of their success to his personal direction or valued counsels. He was shrewd, sagacious, and somewhat prophetic, a man of excellent business ability and sound judgment, and a powerful factor as a banker, and in local financial affairs. Unostentatious, quiet, and mild-mannered, but firm and decided in his opinion, he was a close student of human nature, a good diplomatist, a man of even temperament, and a prosperous and influential citizen. He took a keen interest in the welfare of his city and was always a liberal contributor to charitable and benevolent objects. A life-long Democrat he never sought public office, yet in Western he was pressed forward by his townsmen year after year to the highest elective position within their gift.

Mr. Utley was married, first, to Miss Amy Beckwith, daughter of Lemuel Beckwith, the first settler in 1789 of the town of Western, Oneida county, where she died leaving four children, of whom George P. and Harmon G. (of Rome) survive. His second wife was Miss Catherine Marsh, of New York city, who died without issue.

VIRGIL DRAPER.

THE first American ancestors of the Draper family were James Draper and Miriam Stansfield, his wife, of Heptonstall Parish, Vicarage of Halifax, Yorkshire, England, who came to this country and settled in Roxbury, near Boston, Mass., about 1650. James Draper was a son of Thomas and was made a freeman of Roxbury in 1690. The line of descent from Thomas to the subject of this memoir is as follows: (1) Thomas, (2) James, (3) James, (4) James, (5) Josiah, (6) Josiah, and (7) Virgil. James Draper (3) was born in Roxbury in 1654, married Abigail Whitney, of Dedham, Mass., February 18, 1681, and died April 30, 1698. He was a soldier in King Philip's war in 1675. James Draper (4), son of James (3), was born in 1691, married, first, Rachel Addis and, second, Abigail Child, and died in 1768. He was captain of the Trained Bands of Militia in his district. Josiah (5), son of James (4) and Abigail (Child) Draper, was born in Stoughton, Mass., September 12, 1727, and married Sarah Ellis. Their son, Josiah (6), was born in Dedham, Mass., October 14, 1753, and died in Attleboro, Mass., May 17, 1819. He married Miss Mary Mann, daughter of Dr. Bezaleel Mann, of Attleboro, and sister of Newton Mann, whose portrait and biography appear in this work. September 25, 1778, he enlisted as a drummer in Captain Plympton's company of Medfield, Mass., volunteers, and served creditably in the war of the Revolution. He had thirteen children, of whom Virgil was the eighth.

Virgil Draper, born in Attleboro, Mass., January 4, 1789, inherited all the sturdy characteristics of his long line of worthy New England ancestry, and besides was liberally endowed with those native attributes which make the successful man. He acquired his rudimentary education in the public schools of his birthplace, interspersing it with a practical experience which proved valuable in after life. In 1806 he came to Whitesboro, Oneida county, N. Y., to live with his maternal uncle, Dr. Seth Capron, and immediately entered the newly established cotton mills there to learn the manufacture of cotton goods in all its branches. The principal owners of these mills were Dr. Capron and Newton Mann, and in them Mr. Draper remained until 1822, when he came to Rome, N. Y., as superintendent of Dominick Lynch's mill. About two years later he went to Stittville, Oneida county, and established a cotton mill, which he sold out in 1827. Returning then to Rome he purchased the Lynch waterpower and mill property at what is known as "Factory Village" and engaged in the manufacture of cotton goods on an extensive scale, having also a general store in connection with the establishment. He continued this business with marked success until about 1840, when he retired. In 1827 he also purchased the property on the corner of Spring and Dominick streets, where the Lynch residence had stood and which was in 1825 destroyed by fire, and erected the present dwelling, which is occupied by his daughter and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. H. K. White. The Lynch house was the first structure built on the historic site of Fort Stanwix after that military stronghold had been demolished, and which embraced the site where the Draper homestead now stands.

Mr. Draper always manifested a lively interest in the growth and prosperity of Rome, to which he liberally contributed through various important enterprises. He was one of the founders of the Fort Stanwix (now the Fort Stanwix National) Bank and served as its vice-president until his death, which occurred in Rome on April 6,

1867. He was heavily interested in Rome real estate and numerous business projects, which materially promoted the general welfare and advancement. He was always a conspicuous figure in local elections and in political affairs, not for the purpose of seeking office, for that he steadfastly refused, but for the good of his party and town. Originally a Whig and subsequently a Republican he was one of the few who contributed towards and procured the establishment of the Roman Citizen as a Whig newspaper in 1840. He unflinchingly stood by his convictions, and possessed a keen discrimination between right and wrong. He was a constant attendant of the Presbyterian church and required the same regular attendance of his family. Firm in friendship, cautious in expressing opinions, an earnest advocate of temperance, and a man of strict integrity, uprightness of character, and singleness of purpose, he was successful in every sphere of life. He was a man of few intimate friends but to those he was closely attached. Starting without a dollar he accumulated by his own industry an ample fortune, and in every respect was a self-made man.

He married Miss Eliza Holmes, daughter of Joseph and Mary (Bullard) Holmes, of Attleboro, Mass., who died July 3, 1872, in the eightieth year of her age. They had three children: Frances, born December 1, 1822, married Joseph A. Dudley (died in 1884), an early and prominent druggist and business man of Rome and later a wholesale druggist in New York city, and died in 1872; Mary, who married, first, Henry S. Hill (died in 1854), a druggist of Rome, and second, Henry K. White, of Spencer & White, one of the oldest dry goods merchants in this city; and Julia H., who married her second cousin, Sidney R. Kinney, grandson of Newton Mann, who was engaged in the drug business in Rome until his death in 1861. Mr. Draper's three sons-in-law—Messrs. Dudley, Hill, and Kinney—occupied one after another the same drug store and dwelling house, and all were representative business men.

EDWARD HUNTINGTON.

THE first American ancestor of this branch of the Huntington family of which there is any authentic record was Simon, who spent his youth in Windsor, Conn., but removed to Norwich in 1660, where he passed the remainder of his life. Benjamin Huntington, one of his descendants and the grandfather of the subject of this memoir, was born in Norwich, Conn., April 19, 1736, graduated from Yale in 1761, and soon became a prominent lawyer in his native town. He was a member of the Continental Congress in 1780-84 and 1787-88 and in 1789 was chosen from Connecticut to the first Congress of the United States. From 1781 to 1790 and from 1791 to 1793 he was a member of the Upper House of the Connecticut Legislature; in 1784 he became the first mayor of the city of Norwich, an office he held till he resigned in 1796. In 1793 he was appointed judge of the Superior Court and served in that capacity until 1798. During the Revolutionary war he rendered valuable service to the State and was a member of the convention held at New Haven for the regulation of the army. On one occasion, in the absence from home of Judge Huntington, his patriotic wife, in response to a pressing call on the part of the army, sent all

their bedding and available clothing to the heroic soldiers, supplying their place on the bed by blankets cut from carpets on the floor. His son, George Huntington, was born June 5, 1770, and was married May 21, 1794, to Hannah Thomas of Norwich, Conn. He came to Whitestown, Oneida county, in 1792, and in 1793 removed to Rome (then Fort Stanwix), where in partnership with a brother, Henry, he established the first store at Fort Stanwix, now Rome, opening their goods for sale in the tavern of John Barnard, which stood just northeast of the present court house. Both were natives of Connecticut. In 1794 George Huntington built a frame store and dwelling on Dominick street and the firm continued mercantile business till about 1816. He was the first supervisor of the town of Rome in 1796, and held that office also in 1804, 1814, and 1817. In 1798 he was appointed one of the first side judges of the Common Pleas for the new county of Oneida, and was reappointed in 1801 and 1804. In 1810 he was elected to the Assembly and in 1813 defeated for the office of lieutenant governor on the Federal ticket. In 1815 and again in 1822 he ran for State senator, but was defeated. He was elected to the assembly in 1818, 1819, 1820, and 1821, and from 1797 to 1819 officiated as collector for the Western Inland Canal. He was trustee of Rome village in 1820, 1821, 1822, 1826, and 1827, and died, universally respected and esteemed September 23, 1841. He reared a family of eight children, of whom Edward was the youngest.

Hon. Edward Huntington was born in Rome, June 23, 1817, and died here April 17, 1881. He prepared for college at Oliver C. Grosvenor's school, but failing health compelled him to abandon the idea of a collegiate training and turn his attention to civil engineering for the sake of outdoor exercise. In this occupation he found an ample field for the development of his talents and the congenial employment of his native energy. He afterward spent some time in Cuba, where, with Benjamin H. Wright, he was engaged on railroad surveys. Returning to Rome he became one of the engineers on the Utica and Schenectady Railroad and in 1839 was made chief of a corps of engineers employed on the enlargement of the Erie Canal, with headquarters at Fort Plain. Upon the death of his father in 1841 he resigned this position and returned to Rome to look after the large landed and other property comprising the estate, which with his own interests commanded his attention ever afterward. He was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1846 and rendered valuable service in that important body. He was also for several years president of the village of Rome.

In 1855 Mr. Huntington was elected president of the Rome Savings Bank to succeed the late Hervey Brayton and held that position until he resigned in 1878. Upon the death of Robert B. Doxtater in 1863 he was made president of the Rome Exchange (now the First National) Bank and officiated in that capacity until his decease. He was one of the prime movers in organizing the Rome Iron Works Company in 1866 and served as its president till his death. He was also largely instrumental in forming the Merchants Iron Mill, of which he was continuously a valued trustee. In all benevolent and charitable enterprises Mr. Huntington was ever a foremost participant and in every movement which promised benefit to the community his name was conspicuous. He was one of the moving spirits in founding the Central New York Institution for Deaf Mutes in Rome in 1875 and was a member of its board of trustees from the organization until his death. He was also a

trustee of the Rome Cemetery Association, a director in the Rome & Clinton Railroad Company, and for many years a director and vice-president of the First National Bank of Utica.

Mr. Huntington always manifested a deep interest in educational matters and was especially prominent in establishing the Rome Academy, of which he was long a trustee. He was also influential in organizing the Rome free school system and became a member of the first Board of Education, a position he filled with singular ability and universal satisfaction. He was a faithful friend of and identified with the Young Men's Christian Association from its inception, being its first president and a member of its board of directors until his death. Throughout life he was a prominent member of the Presbyterian church.

Edward Huntington was first a Whig and later a Republican, a man of quiet and retiring disposition, and neither sought nor desired public office, yet he never shirked responsibility. He discharged every duty with an impartiality and fearlessness born of love of right and justice. He was a man of strict integrity, unswerving fidelity, and of great uprightness of character. A devout Christian, a life-long friend of popular education, a staunch supporter of the moral and public welfare, he was ever a generous promoter of all projects which promised advancement to the community. He had the best interests of Rome at heart, and contributed of both time and means toward building up the city and furthering its prosperity. He was widely respected and esteemed, and retained the confidence of all with whom he came into contact. Being heavily interested in real estate and numerous business enterprises he was one of the largest taxpayers, and in every capacity his counsel and advice carried the prestige of conviction.

September 4, 1844, Mr. Huntington was married to Miss Antoinette Randall, daughter of William Randall, of Cortland, N. Y., who survives him, as do also a son and four daughters.

ALBERT SOPER.

ALBERT SOPER was the eldest son of Philander and Jerusha Martin Soper, and was born in Rome, in February, 1812. His father had settled in Rome about 1809, having emigrated from Long Island. His mother had emigrated from Rhode Island about the same year.

Albert grew to manhood on the farm of his father, attending the common school winters, and finishing his education at Mr. Grosvenor's Academy. At the age of eighteen he learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed for several years. A little later he began contracting, and while thus employed built the first planing mill erected in Rome. His earliest partner was Adam Van Patten, who was succeeded by William Simmons, an extensive lumber yard having been added to the business.

The financial storm of 1857 forced the firm to assign, and Mr. Soper continued as manager of the business for the assignee till 1865, when he removed to Chicago, when with characteristic energy he threw himself into the flood of lumber development and was soon on top. The firm name was Park & Soper until 1878, when Mr.

Park sold his interest to James Soper, the younger brother of Albert, and the business was continued under the title of Soper Bros. & Co. until 1884, when it was consolidated with the Soper & Pond Co., and incorporated as the Soper Lumber Co., with Albert Soper as president, with mills in Michigan and extensive yards in Chicago. The business grew to large proportions, their trade reaching from Massachusetts to Colorado.

Mr. Soper died in May, 1890. He was pre-eminently a business man, devoting his entire attention to development of his interests, with an energy that was tireless.

He was an excellent citizen, with correct and comprehensive views on law and life, and established a most honorable name in the business world. He took an ardent interest in politics, and was a staunch Whig in his earlier years, and a Republican when the latter party was organized. He never sought nor held a political office.

Mr. Soper was for many years a director of the Hyde and Leather National Bank of Chicago.

In 1836 he was married to Esther Farquharson, who was a native of Cherry Valley, in New York State. Mrs. Soper survived her husband nearly four years. Seven children were born to them, of whom two died in early youth. Of the remainder Arthur W., the eldest, now resides in New York city; Mary Adelaide, wife of George Merrill, died in Chicago in 1890; Alexander C., James P., and Etta A. (wife of William Penn Smith), now reside in Chicago.

ARTHUR W. SOPER.

ARTHUR W. SOPER, eldest son of Albert and Esther Soper, was born in Rome, N. Y., July 16, 1838. He was educated at Rome Academy under Prof. Frank Moore, and at the age of seventeen, began work in his father's office and lumber yard. In 1858 he entered the railway service, beginning as clerk in the Rome freight office. At the end of three years, he was appointed Superintendent's clerk. This position he held two years, when he was made a passenger conductor, and the following year appointed Assistant Superintendent of the R. W. & O. Ry., under Addison Day. Some four years later, Mr. Day was called to St. Louis as Superintendent of the St. Louis, Iron Mountain & Southern Ry., and soon after his arrival there, offered Mr. Soper the office of Assistant Superintendent, which he accepted, leaving Rome in February, 1871. At the end of a year, Mr. Day resigned, because of ill health, and Mr. Soper was made General Superintendent, and afterwards for several years, General Manager.

Under his efficient and energetic management, the road was greatly prospered, and became most important and helpful to the business of St. Louis. After some ten years service, Mr. Soper resigned his position as General Manager, to engage in business in New York City. No man ever had more sincere friends and admirers among the leading citizens and business men of St. Louis, than Mr. Soper, as was evidenced by their resolutions accompanying a handsome service of silver, which they presented to him upon his retiring from active railway service.

Upon his arrival in New York, he took up, with characteristic energy, the management of several important business interests in connection with railroads, which prospered and grew rapidly to large proportions.

About 1889, he became President of the Safety Car Heating & Lighting Co. of New York, which he has managed with remarkable success.

In April, 1871, he married Hettie, daughter of Samuel Wardwell, of Rome, N. Y. They have one child, Mary Theresa.

Mr. Soper was endowed with unusual force of character, supported by extraordinary mental and physical vigor. With these are united personal qualities which endear him to his friends, who are a host in number. Such a man was bound to be successful in any career he might have chosen.

In politics he has always been a stalwart Republican, but has never sought or held office.

Mr. Soper's two brothers, Alexander C. and James P., are the head and front of the Soper Lumber Co. of Chicago, and that sagacity and energy which they share with the subject of this sketch, have made their firm in its department one of the foremost representative houses of the West.

SAMUEL O. SCUDDER, M. D.

SAMUEL OSBORNE SCUDDER, M. D., was born on a farm in Roxbury, Delaware county, N. Y., March 31, 1818, and died at his home in Rome, N. Y., March 2, 1895. His grandparents were William S. and Elizabeth Scudder, who were born respectively January 14 and September 14, 1743. David Scudder, his father, was born October 2, 1783, and married, first, February 17, 1807, Phebe Osborne, who was born July 7, 1788, and who died March 10, 1822. Their children were Elizabeth, born April 5, 1809; Cynthia, born March 16, 1812; Abigail, March 14, 1814; Edalinah, January 3, 1817; Dr. Samuel O., the subject of this memoir; Mary Ann, May 24, 1820; and David O., March 10, 1822. He married, second, February 17, 1823, Mrs. Sally (Patterson) Yeomans, who was born May 31, 1795. They had seven children.

Dr. Scudder remained on the parental farm and attended the district schools until he reached the age of fourteen, when, with seventy-five cents in money, he started out into the world to seek a fortune. Endowed with a strong constitution for a lad of his years, combined with pluck, perseverance, and clear ideas, he eagerly took advantage of the first opportunity to increase his knowledge as well as his little store of wealth. He learned successively the trades of tinsmith, hatter, and furrier, mastering each with a skill and rapidity that demonstrated his capacity for learning. All this time, however, he cherished an ambition for something higher, saved every penny possible, and devoted all his spare moments to study and self-improvement. Leaving these occupations, one after another, he was for four years a clerk in a general store in Hudson, N. Y., where he matured plans to make himself a physician and surgeon. He went to Palmyra, N. Y., and entered the office of Dr. Durfee Chase, an eminent practitioner of the homœopathic school, and from there he became a student during the winter of 1846-47 in the medical department of the

University of New York City, in which the noted physician, Dr. Valentine Mott, was a professor. He was graduated from the Homœopathic Medical College of Pennsylvania on March 10, 1849. He contributed many valuable papers on medical subjects to the county society, and was the first of the class of six graduates (and the last survivor) who received the first diplomas granted by any homœopathic institution in this country. After a brief residence in Waterloo, N. Y., he came to Rome, Oneida county, where he remained until his death, a period of nearly forty eight years, being at the time of his demise the oldest physician in the city.

Dr. Scudder was devoted to his profession and probably did as much for the advancement of homœopathy as any other physician in Central New York. His practice grew to extensive proportions, and throughout a wide section of the county he retained the respect and confidence of all with whom he came in contact. He became somewhat celebrated as a specialist in lung and throat troubles, in the treatment of which he was often called long distances, either as consultant or as physician in charge. He laid particular stress upon the importance of good nursing, and in this respect he acquired a reputation. He was a quick and almost unerring diagnostician and possessed a keenness of perception that was remarkable. Kind, patient, and cheerful, his presence in the sick room was always welcome, while his geniality and friendliness made him a desirable companion. He joined the Oneida County Homœopathic Society on June 21, 1859, and became its president October 17, 1865. In fact he was one of the pioneers in homœopathy in this part of the State. He was one of the founders and a lifelong member of the New York State Homœopathic Medical Society, and during the war and afterward served as United States examining surgeon for the pension department.

As a financier Dr. Scudder enjoyed an enviable reputation both at home and abroad. He was for some time a well known and successful operator in Wall street, and in local business affairs he became an authority. He was a close personal friend of John B. Jarvis, the noted civil engineer, and of many other influential men of his day. He was largely instrumental in founding the Rome Brass and Copper Company and was its president from soon after the organization till his death. Mainly through his able management it was placed upon a sound business basis. He was also one of the founders of the Champaign (Ill.) Water Works Company, at one time its president, and for several years controlled its financial affairs.

Dr. Scudder was married, first, on December 24, 1845, to Miss Harriet Fidelia Chase, daughter of his clinical preceptor, Dr. Durfee Chase, of Palmyra, N. Y. After her death he married, in October, 1856, Miss Elizabeth Crampton, who survives him. His children were Mrs. A. B. Southwick, Dr. Nelson C. Scudder, and Miss Elizabeth C., of Rome; Fred B. Scudder, of New York; and Samuel, deceased. Dr. Nelson C. Scudder was born August 14, 1853, was graduated from the Hahnemann Medical College of Philadelphia in 1879, and is now a practicing physician in Rome.

ELON J. LAWTON, M.D.

ELON JOSEPH LAWTON, M.D., was a descendant of George Lawton, who emigrated from England early in the seventeenth century and settled in Portsmouth, R. I. On

a document dated April 30, 1639, his name appears among those of other residents of that place who swore allegiance to King Charles, and from his day to the present many members of the family have filled important positions in civil and commercial as well as in social and professional life. The history of not only New England but of various other States in the Union bears evidence of their public spirit, patriotism, and official capacity, while the annals of numerous communities contain notices of their deeds and labors. One Robert Lawton was for several years a deputy from Portsmouth, beginning in 1781, and another, George Lawton, who served in Col. John Cook's regiment from Rhode Island in the Revolutionary war, was wounded by a cannon-shot from a British ship on January 10, 1777, while on duty at Fayland Ferry. The men bearing the name invariably took a prominent part in their respective localities during colonial times and in many instances attained distinction for excellence in their chosen callings. Joseph Lawton, jr., eldest son of Joseph Lawton, sr., a descendant of the original George Lawton, moved from Rhode Island to near Stonington, Conn., where his son and eldest child, Joseph, was born February 11, 1780. The latter married, October 6, 1801, Nancy Dennison, who was born in Stonington in October, 1782, and died in Albion, Wis., June 18, 1854. His death occurred in Edgerton, Wis., November 1, 1866. He came to Easton, Washington county, N. Y., about 1802, but soon removed to the town of Verona, Oneida county, and settled near Rathbunville. Later he took up his residence at what was long known as Lawton's Bridge, near Higginsville, in the same town, where he was both a farmer and grocer. His eldest child, Dyer Stanton Lawton, was born in Easton, N. Y., January 27, 1803, followed farming and mercantile business at Higginsville, and died in Rome on May 11, 1855. He was married, first on December 31, 1829, to Mary Louisa Higgins, and second, after her death, to Sarah Ann Egleston, on August 29, 1833.

Dr. Elon J. Lawton, son of Dyer Stanton and Sarah Ann (Egleston) Lawton, was born in Higginsville, Oneida county, September 9, 1835, and spent his early life upon the farm and in attendance at the district schools of his native town. At about the age of eighteen he came with his father and the family to Rome, where he finished his education at the local academy. Here he became a clerk in the drug store of Dr. Harold H. Pope and while clerking also commenced the study of medicine, which he subsequently continued in the office of Dr. James M. Sturdevant. He took lectures at the Castleton (Vt.) Medical College and the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, and in 1858 was graduated from the Albany Medical College with the degree of M. D. He began the practice of his profession in North Western, Oneida county, and two years later removed to Verona, where he remained until January, 1870, when he came to Rome. Here he afterward resided and practiced medicine until his death, which occurred April 18, 1895.

Dr. Lawton was a lifelong Republican and for many years took an active interest in politics. He was for some time postmaster at Verona and in 1870 was elected coroner of Oneida county, an office he filled with honesty and ability by re election for four successive terms, or twelve years. In 1890 and again in 1893 he was elected alderman from the 5th ward of Rome, and while holding that position was one of a committee appointed to select a site for the city hall. In this latter capacity he was mainly instrumental in locating that handsome structure upon the premises it now

occupies. While a member of the Common Council he was one of the leaders of the Republican side and rendered effective service, not only to that body, but to his constituents and the city at large, and although a Republican his fairness, honesty, and integrity were never questioned. He was quite heavily interested in real estate and in several business enterprises, and always aided in promoting the advancement and prosperity of the community, contributing liberally to its welfare and numerous charitable and benevolent objects. He was a prominent physician, skillful in diagnosis and the treatment of diseases, and in North Western, Verona, and Rome enjoyed a wide professional business as well as the respect and confidence of all with whom he came in contact. He was a man of pronounced convictions and opinions, of keen discrimination between right and wrong, conscientious, genial, kind, sympathetic, and friendly.

August 9, 1870, Dr. Lawton was married in Verona to Miss Clara M., daughter of Mason Benedict, of that village, who with two children—Mason Benedict Lawton and Clarabelle Benedict Lawton—survives him and resides in Rome.

THOMAS MACOMB FLANDRAU.

THOMAS MACOMB FLANDRAU, son of Thomas Hunt and Elizabeth M. (Macomb) Flandrau, was born in New York city on the 8th of July, 1826. His ancestry, though French and Irish, were all Protestants—rather curiously, as both countries are strongly Roman Catholic in their religious tendencies. Jaques Flandreau, the originator of the family in this country, was a French Huguenot driven from France by the revocation of the Edict of Nantes by Louis XIV, and with a colony of his compatriots settled at New Rochelle, N. Y., about 1686, naming the town after La Rochelle, a famous Protestant city of France. His descendants still live at New Rochelle, but are not very numerous. Dr. Flandrau is the only physician of the name in the United States; his branch of the family dropped the *e* from the last syllable. Mrs. Elizabeth M. (Macomb) Flandrau was a daughter of Alexander Macomb, an Orangeman from Belfast, Ireland, who was married in 1773 in Detroit, Mich., where he remained until 1785 when he moved to New York city. There he was for many years actively engaged in business as a shipping merchant. In 1788 he built No. 39 Broadway, which was occupied in 1790 by General Washington as the President's house, and which in later years was Bunker's Hotel. In 1791 he purchased a large tract of land in what are now the counties of Lewis, St. Lawrence, Franklin, Herkimer, Jefferson and Oswego, the southern boundary of which is now the northern line of Oneida county. It comprised 3,700,000 acres, cost eight cents per acre, and included all the Thousand Islands, except Carlton Island, on which stood Fort Haldiman. The map of "Macomb's Purchase" and the documents relating to it are in the Documentary History of New York. Mr. Macomb had six sons in the war of 1812, the eldest of whom, Maj.-Gen. Alexander Macomb, was the hero of the battle of Plattsburgh and afterwards commander-in-chief of the United States Army. Thomas Hunt Flandrau, a native of New Rochelle, N. Y., was educated in Oneida county, where he spent the most of his life. He was graduated

from Hamilton College in 1819, became a prominent lawyer, and at the time of his marriage and the birth of his son, Dr. Flandrau, was a law partner of the celebrated Aaron Burr in New York city.

Dr. Thomas Macomb Flandrau passed his youth in Georgetown, D. C., and was educated in the private schools and academies of Georgetown and Washington. He studied medicine with Dr. Benjamin S. Bohrer, and was graduated from the National Medical College of Washington, D. C., in March, 1848. After practicing his profession a short time in Georgetown he removed to his father's home at Whitesboro, Oneida county, N. Y., but on January 1, 1853, settled in Rome, where he was in partnership with Dr. Arba Blair for two years. In 1856 he went to Brockport, N. Y., and remained there until 1862, when he again took up his residence in Rome, where he has since lived. August 23, 1862, Dr. Flandrau was commissioned surgeon of the 146th Regiment, N. Y. Vol. Inf., with rank of major. This regiment was known as the Halleck Infantry and also as the 5th Oneida, and many of its officers and men were citizens of Rome. He remained with the organization about a year, when he was promoted to the position of surgeon-in-chief of the 3d Brigade, 2d Division, 5th Army Corps. On the 7th of June, 1864, he was again promoted to the surgeoncy-in-chief of the 2d Division, 5th Army Corps.

The 146th Regiment is entitled to honorable mention in the history of Rome. Lieut.-Col. Jesse J. Armstrong, Adjutant Edward Comstock, and Capt. William A. Walker, besides many of its brave soldiers, were residents of this city, and having been organized on the camp ground in West Dominick street all its officers and men felt a profound interest in the city of its birth. The regiment participated in every battle fought by the Army of the Potomac from the first battle of Fredericksburg in December, 1862, to the final surrender of the Confederate army at Appomattox in April, 1865. It distinguished itself as well by its bravery as by the fearful slaughter of its rank and file in many engagements, especially in the Wilderness, where Col. David Jenkins and Major Henry Curran were left dead upon the field with a large number of men. As surgeon, Dr. Flandrau was present in all of its twenty-five battles, and fortunately escaped sickness and wounds during his three years' service at the front. He was discharged at Syracuse, N. Y., in July, 1865, and was made brevet lieutenant-colonel of U. S. Volunteers, holding a commission to that effect "for meritorious services in the field," signed by President Andrew Johnson, and the great secretary of war, Edwin M. Stanton. The Medical and Surgical History of the War contains the record of many of his surgical operations.

In 1865 Dr. Flandrau purchased his present residence in East Dominick street and ever since then he has been actively engaged in the practice of his profession in Rome. He is a member of the Oneida County Medical Society and the American Medical Association, and has attended several International Medical Congresses, the last in 1890 at Berlin, Germany, when he made an extended tour through France, Switzerland, England, Scotland, and Ireland. For many years he has been a member of the Board of Health of Rome and for twelve years a member of the Board of Education, of which he has served as president during the last three years. He has served as physician to the Central New York Institution for Deaf Mutes of Rome since its organization in 1874. He is medical director of the Rome Hospital and was prominent in its foundation and establishment, making the plans and designs for

its construction. His plans were adopted with very slight modification by the architect, George Schillner, who brought them to their final development and is entitled to the credit of its external decoration.

Dr. Flandrau ranks high among the eminent physicians and surgeons of Central New York, and during his long and active practice has won the confidence and respect of a wide circle of warm friends and acquaintances. He has always taken a keen interest in the religious, social, and educational advancement of his city, contributing generously to these and kindred objects, and encouraging every worthy project which promises benefit to the community. He has been a member of the Protestant Episcopal church for forty years and for over twenty years has served as vestryman and warden of Zion church, Rome.

In 1854 Dr. Flandrau was married in Brockport, N. Y., to Miss Clarissa J. Foote, a native of Vernon, Oneida county, N. Y., who died May 1, 1890. She was a woman noted for her energy, tact, and charitable sentiments, and contributed largely to the building and success of the Rome Hospital, where her name and good work are commemorated by a handsome brass tablet erected by the ladies of the institution. She left three daughters: Miss Elizabeth M. Flandrau and Mrs. Dr. H. C. Sutton, of Rome, and Mrs. George Ethridge, of New York city.

CHRISTOPHER C. REID, M. D.

CHRISTOPHER C. REID, M. D., was born in the town of Westmoreland, Oneida county, N. Y., November 1, 1838, and is the sixth in a family of fifteen children of James and Rebecca (Robinson) Reid, who were born of Scotch parentage in the north of Ireland. James and Rebecca Reid, after their marriage in their native country, came to America about 1837 and first settled in Kirkland, this county, but subsequently moved to a farm in Westmoreland. Mrs. Reid died in 1879, aged about seventy years. Mr. Reid's death occurred in Albion, Oswego county, in November, 1887, at the age of eighty seven. Thirteen of their children attained maturity. James Reid and his brother Christopher constituted the family of William Reid grandfather of the subject of this sketch.

Dr. C. C. Reid left home at the age of nine years to live with his uncle Christopher in Kirkland, N. Y., where he was reared on a farm. He was graduated from Whites-town Seminary in 1862, and while attending that institution began the study of medicine with Drs. Henderson, father and son. After his graduation he went to Albany, read medicine under Dr. William Bailey, and was graduated with the degree of M. D. from the Albany Medical College in 1864. The same year he commenced the practice of his profession in the town of Western, Oneida county, where he remained until 1870, when he moved to Rome, where he has since resided, enjoying a wide and successful professional business.

Dr. Reid is a member of the Oneida County Medical Society and was one of the founders and has always been a member of the New York State Medical Association. He is the first president of the Rome Medical Society, which he was largely instrumental in organizing in February, 1895. For twenty consecutive years, or

since 1876, he has acted as examining surgeon for the N. Y. C. & H. R. R. R. Co. his labors in this capacity extending along the entire line and frequently outside the State. He is consulting physician to the Rome City Hospital, a director in the Rome Brass and Copper Company, and was one of the originators and the first president of the Washington Street Opera House Company, serving as president two terms during the erection of the handsome opera house in 1889 and 1890. He joined the Masons in Vienna and is now a member of Rome Lodge F. & A. M. and Rome Commandery K. T. In 1879 he visited Europe and traveled extensively over Great Britain and the Continent, visiting not only the chief points of general interest, but many hospitals and medical institutions.

Dr. Reid was married on April 4, 1893, to Miss Katherine Melissa Spencer, daughter of Harvey D. Spencer, of Rome, N. Y.

JOSEPH I. SAYLES.

DESCENDANTS of the Sayles family in America trace their lineage to John Sayles, (1) and Mary Williams, his wife, who were married in Rhode Island in 1650, settled in Providence, and are buried in the Easton burial ground in Middletown near Sachuest Beach. He was born in Scotland in 1633, his father being of Scotch and his mother of Irish parentage, and died in 1681. His wife, who was born in 1638 and died also in 1681, was a daughter of Roger Williams, first governor and founder of the Rhode Island colony, and Mary, his wife. Mr. Sayles was made a freeman in 1655, and held the offices of commissioner, town clerk, warden, town treasurer, auditor, deputy, and councilman. His posterity in a direct line to the subject of this sketch is as follows: John (2), born August 17, 1654, deputy, tavern keeper, died August 2, 1727; Richard (3), born October 24, 1695, died in 1775; Israel (4), born March 17, 1726; Israel (5); Benjamin B. (6), who married Polly Strong; and Joseph I. (7). The foregoing, prior to Benjamin B. Sayles, lived in Rhode Island, where many of the name occupied responsible positions in business, social and official life, manifesting at all times great patriotism and individual ability, and becoming substantial and useful citizens. Isael (5) came to Norwich, N. Y., early in 1800, and there Benjamin B. (6) was born and learned the trade of blacksmith. Benjamin B. Sayles moved to the town of Plymouth, Chenango county, and followed farming many years. He had four sons and one daughter.

Joseph I. Sayles, youngest son of Benjamin B. and Polly (Strong) Sayles, was born in Plymouth, Chenango county, N. Y., October 7, 1843, and remained on the parental farm and attended the district schools until he reached the age of seventeen. He inherited in full measure the sturdy characteristics of his New England ancestry, and supplemented these by early acquiring those habits of industry and perseverance which mark the successful man. April 29, 1861, he enlisted in Co. H, 17th N. Y. Vol. Inf., as a private, and served with the Army of the Potomac from its organization till after the siege of Yorktown, participating in all the engagements on the peninsula. At Chickahomony Swamp he was taken sick and sent to St. Elizabeth Hospital at Washington, where he was honorably discharged August 9,

1862. Returning home he resumed his common school education and soon began to read law in Norwich, N. Y. He was graduated from the Albany Law School in 1866 and in December of the same year was admitted to the bar at Albany. Immediately afterward he commenced the practice of his profession in Lee Center, Oneida county, where he served as justice of the peace and where he remained until 1870 when he moved to Rome. Here he formed a copartnership with Hon. M. D. Barnett, which continued until the latter's election as district attorney in 1876. Mr. Sayles's next partnership was in 1887, when the present firm of Sayles, Searle & Sayles, was organized by the admission of D. F. Searle and A. F. Sayles.

Mr. Sayles has been a lifelong Republican, casting his first vote for Abraham Lincoln for president in 1864. He represented the Fifth ward in the common council three years, has been a member of the Rome Water Commission four years, and in March, 1894, was appointed by Gov. Levi P. Morton one of the managers of the State Custodial Asylum at Rome for six years, being chairman of the executive committee of that institution. He was a charter member of Skillen Post, No. 47, G. A. R. and for ten years officiated as its commander. He was also department commander of the G. A. R. for the State of New York, with rank of major-general in 1885, and judge advocate of the department three terms. In 1891 he organized and has since served as president of the Jones Elastic Enamel Paint Company of Rome. He is heavily interested in real estate, both at home and elsewhere, and has for many years been closely identified with the city's growth and prosperity.

But it is as a trial and criminal lawyer that Mr. Sayles stands out the most prominently in his career. Without the adventitious aids which wealth, family influence, and scholastic attainments can give he has, by courage, industry, perseverance, indomitable will power, and his own unaided ability, worked his way from a rustic school boy on the farm to the front rank in his profession as a trial lawyer, so that he stands to-day among the foremost criminal lawyers in the State. He is emphatically and in the fullest sense a self-made man. It is as a jury advocate, and the more especially as a criminal lawyer, that he has won his greatest triumphs and established his widest reputation. His shrewdness and tact in the management of trials, his acquaintance with human nature which enables him to judge how oral testimony will strike and impress the average juror, his experience and familiarity with the practice and intricacies of criminal law, and above and better than all his skill in the examination of his own and the cross-examination of unwilling and evasive witnesses all thoroughly equip him for a trial lawyer in both civil and criminal trials, and make him a formidable and most dangerous antagonist. He has tried causes in every county of this State but two, and has defended between thirty and forty prisoners (the trials taking place in nearly a dozen different counties) for capital offenses, and in none of them has the prisoner been executed, and in only one was there a conviction for the higher offense, and in that case the judgment was reversed and the prisoner subsequently acquitted. It is said of him that "he is a natural trial lawyer."

On the 2d of June, 1873, Mr. Sayles was married to Miss Sarah Castle, a daughter of the late Hon. John J. Castle, of Lee, who in 1852 was member of assembly from Oneida county. She died July 7, 1877, and in 1878 he married Mrs. Carrie M. Bond, daughter of George Potter, of Lee, by whom he has two children: Josie Irene, born

January 10, 1880, and General George W., born February 22, 1882. The first born, at the age of thirteen, wrote a book, worthy of one double her years, which was printed for circulation among her own immediate acquaintances and friends.

EDWARD COMSTOCK.

HON. EDWARD COMSTOCK, son of Hon. Calvert and Eliza Mann (Sill) Comstock, was born in Rome, N. Y., April 30, 1842. He first decided upon a legal career and read law, but abandoned this to become lieutenant and adjutant in the 146th N. Y. Vols. in the war of the Rebellion. He was with the 146th N. Y. Vols. in the battle of Fredericksburg and Gettysburg. Afterward he was on General Ganard's staff, commanding division of cavalry attached to General Sherman's army in the advance from Chattanooga to Atlanta. Returning to his home in Rome he engaged in business with his father as a lumber manufacturer. In 1876 he established himself in the wholesale and retail lumber trade, with which he has since been identified.

Mr. Comstock is a prominent and an influential factor in the Democratic party, and like his respected father has always taken a keen interest in the welfare and prosperity of the city of Rome. He was twice elected mayor, and is now a member of the Board of Education.

CALVERT COMSTOCK.

HON. CALVERT COMSTOCK was born in the town of Western, Oneida county, July 2, 1812, and died in Rome, N. Y., October 10, 1877. He was early dependent upon his own resources for both a livelihood and an education, and at the age of sixteen began teaching school. In the intervals of this occupation and farm labor he prepared himself for college and in 1831 entered Hamilton College, where he spent two years. There he was one of the founders of the Alpha Delta Phi Society. Compelled by circumstances to relinquish collegiate life he began the study of law with his cousin, Ichabod C. Baker, in Whitesboro, and in 1835 was admitted to the bar. He then formed a co-partnership with Mr. Baker, which continued until 1838, when he removed to Rome to fill a vacancy in the firm of Foster & Stryker, occasioned by the removal of Hon. Charles Tracy to Utica. The firm became Foster, Stryker & Comstock and so continued until January 1, 1841, when Judge Henry A. Foster retired upon a re-election to the State Senate. The firm of Stryker & Comstock continued till July 7, 1846, when Bloomfield J. Beach became a member. In August, 1847, Mr. Stryker retired and Comstock & Beach continued until January 1, 1855, when Mr. Comstock retired permanently from the law, and at the earnest solicitation of his friends in the Democratic party removed to Albany to take charge of the Albany Argus, then the State organ of the Hunker wing of the Democrats.

As a lawyer Mr. Comstock distinguished himself in his profession, and during his twenty years of active practice won a high reputation among both associates and

clients. He was eminently successful—a man of honor, candor, courtesy, ability, and integrity, of discriminating judgment, sound common sense, and great love of justice. In 1845 he was appointed district attorney and by election held that office until 1850, when his extensive law business compelled him to resign. He was a member of assembly in 1845, and in connection with the State Constitution of 1846 won a state-wide reputation. He was chairman of the select committee on that subject, and took the ground that under the constitution of 1821 the Legislature had no right to submit to the people the question of calling a constitutional convention. On this point he made an elaborate report, the law and facts of which stood unchallenged. He framed such amendments to the constitution as in his judgment were demanded, and urged their adoption by the Legislature and subsequent submission to the people, but he was beaten by a combination of Barnburners and Whigs. In the end his judgment was vindicated, for lawyers and statesmen conceded that the constitution of 1846 was inferior, as a whole, to that of 1821. Mr. Comstock had a large journalistic experience. From 1838 until the close of the campaign of 1840 he had charge as editor of the *Rome Sentinel*. In 1847 he became a partner in the firm of A. J. Rowley & Co., in its proprietorship, the editor being his brother Elon. In July, 1852, Calvert and Elon Comstock purchased the plant and established the *Rome Daily Sentinel*, which they successfully conducted until 1855, when they sold it to D. E. Wager and D. C. Rowley. Calvert Comstock then went to Albany and succeeded Edwin Crosswell as editor of the *Argus*. The *Atlas*, then edited by William Cassidy, represented the other wing of the Democratic party. Shortly afterward the uniting of the two factions brought about the consolidation of the two papers and Messrs. Comstock and Cassidy continued in partnership until the former was compelled in 1866 to retire, his constitution having suddenly and completely broken down under the strain of constant labor. He returned to Rome and spent the remainder of his life.

Mr. Comstock always manifested a lively interest in the advancement and prosperity of Rome. He was influential in the construction of the various plank roads which in 1848 were built from the city in several directions. He was largely interested in the building of the Rome, Watertown and Cape Vincent railroad and for twenty years was a director of the Rome, Watertown and Ogdensburg Railroad Company. He was president of the Boston, Rome and Oswego Railroad Company, a projected railroad intended to take advantage of the completion of the Hoosac tunnel, and personally superintended the entire survey of the line. About 1849 he purchased, in connection with Hon. Edward Huntington, a large tract of land in Rome from George Clarke and brought it into market as building lots. He was chiefly influential in securing the charter for the city of Rome and in 1870 was elected the first mayor. He also served for many years as president of the Board of Education.

April 27, 1836, Mr. Comstock married Miss Eliza Mann Sill, eldest daughter of Gen. Theodore Sill, of Whitesboro, the law partner of Thomas R. Gold. Mrs. Comstock died in 1868, leaving four daughters and three sons, all of whom survived their father.

CAPT. JAMES S. ABEEL.

CAPT. JAMES STILLIE ABEEL was a lineal descendant of (1) Christopher James Abeel, who was born in 1621 in Amsterdam, Holland, whence he came to this country in 1657 and settled at Fort Orange (now Albany), where he engaged in trade as agent for the Dutch West India Company. The line of descent from that patroon to the subject of this memoir is (2) Johannes, (3) David, (4) James, (5) John N., and (6) James S. Johannes Abeel (2) was the second mayor and for several years recorder of the city of Albany, holding the first named office two terms. David (3) was a merchant and for some time assessor of New York city. James Abeel (4) was a colonel in the Revolutionary army and served through the war as deputy quartermaster-general on the staff of General Washington, under General Greene. It was largely through his exertions that the troops were provisioned and the army maintained during the historical winter at Valley Forge, and a number of letters bearing his name are still extant. He married a daughter of Dr. John Neilson, a physician of Belfast, Ireland, who came to New York and practiced his profession with success. Rev. John Neilson Abeel (5), son of Colonel James, was born in New York city in 1769, was graduated from Princeton College in 1787 and read law with Hon. William Patterson, LL. D., in New Brunswick. Later he studied theology, became a tutor in Princeton, and was licensed to preach in 1793; two years after he became one of the ministers of the collegiate church (Dutch Reformed) of New York and remained there until his death in 1812. In 1804 Harvard College conferred upon him the degree of D. D. Dr. Abeel was a trustee of Queen's and Columbia Colleges and in 1804, with eleven other citizens, founded the New York Historical Society. He married, January 29, 1794, Mary Stillie, who died January 13, 1826. She was a member of an old and respected Swedish family of Philadelphia before the days of William Penn, when that city was known as New Stockholm and the State of Pennsylvania as New Sweden. Of their five children two daughters died in infancy; the others were James S.; Neilson, born in 1797, married Caroline Lawrence, and died in 1827; and Gustavus, born June 6, 1801, graduated from Union College in 1823 and from the Theological Seminary in New Brunswick in 1824, and died in September, 1887.

Capt. James Stillie Abeel was born in Philadelphia, Pa., November 15, 1795, and received his education in the grammar and select schools of New York city under Arthur Stansbury and John Borland. Upon the death of his father in 1812 he entered the counting house of Robert Lenox, but soon entered the United States army and was assigned to duty on the Niagara frontier in the war of 1812-15. May 3, 1813, he was made third lieutenant, and on February 20, 1815, President James Madison commissioned him first lieutenant in the 23d Regt. Inf., to rank from October 1, 1814, at which time he and Gen. J. A. Dix were the youngest officers on the force. He was present at the sortie on Fort Erie and the taking of Fort George and was wounded at the battle of Lundy's Lane, where it was subsequently supposed his voice became impaired. At the close of the war in December, 1815, he was retained as second lieutenant with brevet of first lieutenant in the reorganized army and transferred to the 4th Artillery. April 20, 1818, he was made first lieutenant of artillery, his commission signed by President James Monroe, being dated July 10, 1820. September 1, 1829, he was brevetted captain for ten years' faithful service in one grade, by President Andrew Jackson, to rank from April 20, 1828.

During this period he was stationed at Newport, R. I., Portland, Me., New York city, and Old Point Comfort, Va. In April, 1828, he was placed in command of the arsenal at Rome, N. Y., where he remained until December 31, 1834, when he resigned. At this time he had been ordered to rejoin his regiment and proceed to Florida, but the health and care of his family compelled him to send in a resignation. He then engaged in farming near Trenton Falls until January 6, 1838, when upon the recommendation of Generals Scott, Wood, and Worth, he was appointed military storekeeper to succeed Capt. Samuel Perkins, deceased, in charge of the Rome arsenal, his commission being signed by President John Tyler and dated May 30, 1844. He held this post until May 7, 1855, when he turned over the arsenal to Capt. D. B. Sackett for a recruiting station. Captain Abeel was then in command of the Detroit U. S. arsenal at Dearborn, Mich., till April, 1863, when he returned to Rome and had charge as military storekeeper of the arsenal here until February 16, 1870, when he was placed on the retired list. Except the brief period spent in farming he served for fifty-seven years in the military service of the U. S. government. He died in December, 1871, being at that time the oldest commissioned officer of the army.

Captain Abeel was an excellent soldier, an accomplished musician, and a man of extensive reading. His dignified military bearing and habits of precision made him a conspicuous figure wherever he went. His profession was that of arms, yet he possessed a natural love for agricultural pursuits. He was a typical gentleman of the old school. He was endowed with great natural wit and humor, a lively artistic and literary conception, and all the tastes of a warlike imagination. In common with nearly all men trained solely to army life he was ignorant of the complications of practical business affairs. He was quite popular, although noted for his pronounced personality, and throughout Central New York enjoyed a wide acquaintance and the respect of all. In person he was very particular, even fastidious, and in deportment he was as punctual as the clock.

November 16, 1826, Captain Abeel was married in New York city to Miss Mary Powell Seymour, daughter of William and Elizabeth (Powell) Seymour, of Newburg, N. Y., and niece of Jacob and Thomas Powell, merchants, of that place. She died December 28, 1888, aged eighty-three. They had seven children: John Neilson and William Seymour, deceased; Isabella, of Rome; Thomas Powell and Alfred, of Waco, Texas; Augusta, wife of Lieut.-Col. F. H. Parker, ordnance department U. S. A.; and James M., deceased.

THOMAS G. NOCK.

THOMAS GILL NOCK was born at Brierly Hill, near Dudley, Staffordshire, England, February 14, 1829, his birthplace being his maternal grandfather's home. A few weeks later he was baptized in the parish church by his mother's rector, and received the name of his mother's father, Thomas Gill, who was a robust, fine appearing man, active, generous hearted, untiring in his work, and a firm believer in God. When fifty years of age Mr. Nock was the counterpart of Mr. Gill—having the same perfectly shaped head, the high forehead, the intelligent face, the business foresight,

the untiring energy, the unselfish generosity. When three years old the child left Brierly Hill with his parents and came to America. In his eighth year he returned to England with his father on a visit to his birthplace, and this event proved a memorable one in his life, making a lasting impression upon his then youthful mind. When he returned to his home at Ramapo, N. Y., he was sent to a private school for two years, after which a tutor was brought to the house for him. This teacher was James Stewart, a graduate of Edinburgh University, and he was continued in this capacity for several years. When fifteen young Nock went to New York city for special instruction for one term in a private school. Returning to Ramapo he entered the office of a cotton mill, where he remained some months. His life in Ramapo was really one of studying the manufacture of steel, but he was often in the woods, on the "Tuxedo," and along the mountain streams with rod and gun. He loved nature, and more than once climbed the noted "Torn," but he was learning the secret of the earth's metals. His father, George Nock, a man of great ability, of strong will and character, and skilled in metallurgy, helped him to a practical knowledge of iron and steel. The father was true and sincere in his religious life, and taught his children and all men his faith and practice by example. The son learned much from this teaching, and slowly but finally strengthened that character and personality which in the man were so marked. There was that in his make-up which happily mingled the characteristics of his maternal and paternal ancestry. Joseph Nock, his paternal grandfather, was a country squire, an active, positive, and determined man in whatever he attempted. The family coat of arms suggests the character of the descendants. On the shield is a bend between three annulets, or, on a field of azure. The crest is a dexter hand brandishing a scimeter. The motto is "*In tenebris servare fidem.*"

Mr. Nock removed in early life from Ramapo to Windsor Locks, Conn., where he married Miss Caroline M., only daughter of Royal Prouty, who survives him. There he was the assistant superintendent, bookkeeper and paymaster of the E. G. Ripley & Co. iron and steel works, which position he held until he removed to Syracuse, N. Y., as superintendent of a large iron rolling mill, since converted into the present Syracuse Tube Works. In 1864 he came to Rome, Oneida county, to supervise the erection of the Rome iron mill, and continued as its general superintendent until the building of the New York Locomotive works in this city in 1882, when he was elected president of that corporation, a position he held until his death on April 20, 1890. The ground for the locomotive works was broken September 17, 1881, and the company was formed in May, 1882. Mr. Nock was largely instrumental in starting that concern, which carried on under his supervision and management a successful business in the manufacture of railroad locomotives and engines. He was a man of great executive ability, of sound judgment and foresight, and of wonderful force of character.

He was for many years prior to his death the president of the First National Bank, a director in the Central Bank, and in fact a stockholder in all the banks in Rome. As a financier his ability and integrity were widely recognized. He contributed materially to the prosperity and general welfare of the city, and sustained and encouraged every beneficent enterprise. He was public spirited and generous to a fault, and bore the confidence of the entire community. A Republican in politics he took a lively interest in the welfare of his party and never failed to work for its ad-

vancement. He was the first fire commissioner appointed in Rome and served continually as the president of the board from its organization until his death. He generously supported the cause of religion and education, and in all matters of a public nature was ever foremost and active. He was very kind hearted, benevolent to the poor and needy, and never missed an opportunity of aiding the unfortunate.

Mr. Nock was survived by three brothers: Revs. Edwin Gaines and Joseph A. Nock, Episcopal clergymen in Philadelphia and Jersey City respectively, and George F. Nock, a commission merchant of New York. He is also survived by four sisters. Of his five children three are living, namely: Dr. Thomas G., jr., a practicing physician, one of the coroners of Oneida county for several years, and one of the fire commissioners of Rome; George P., of New York city; and Mrs. Claude C. Coan, of Clinton, Iowa. His widow resides in Rome.

CYRUS DAN PRESCOTT.

THE first American ancestor of the Prescott family of which the subject of this sketch is a lineal descendant, was John, a grandson of Sir James Prescott and his wife, daughter of Roger Standish, lord and lady of the manor of Dryby in Lincolnshire, England. John Prescott, (1) settled in Boston, Mass., in 1640, and the line of his posterity is as follows: (2) Jonas, (3) Jonas, (4) Ebenezer, (5) Oliver, (6) Oliver, (7) Jeremiah, (8) Cyrus D. Oliver (5) was born May 5, 1725, married Bethiah Underwood, served in the war of the Revolution, and died January 1, 1803. Oliver (6) was born in Westford, Mass., February 22, 1760, married Keziah Howard, and moved to Jeffrey, N. H., and thence in 1793 to New Hartford, Oneida county, where he purchased 500 acres of unbroken forest land. He was a life-long farmer, and died in that town in December, 1843. Jeremiah Prescott (7) was born in New Hartford on August 4, 1806, was first a farmer and subsequently a tin and iron manufacturer, and afterwards admitted to practice as attorney and counselor at law in 1864, and died there May 12, 1872. He was a justice of the peace about thirty years, at one time under sheriff of the county, and held several other local offices. His wife, Deborah Linnemann, was born near Amsterdam, N. Y., December 15, 1805, and died May 5, 1874. Her father, Johan Linnemann, was born in Viele, Denmark, February 16, 1759, was brought to America in 1768, and settled near Amsterdam, where he died. He served in the Revolutionary war, and married for his wife Catherine Sixberry, who died in Ohio, December 19, 1863, aged 101 years, six months and thirteen days.

Hon. Cyrus D. Prescott, son of Jeremiah, was born in New Hartford, on the 15th of August, 1836, and finished his literary education at the Utica Free Academy. He then spent about one year each in the law offices of O. G. Kellogg and Hurd & Brown, in Utica, and at the end of that period entered the county clerk's office, where he remained a little more than two years as search clerk. In 1858 he came to Rome and resumed his legal studies in the office of Johnson & Boardman, which firm soon became Foster, Johnson, Boardman & Lynch. Mr. Prescott was admitted to the bar at the Syracuse General term in the summer of 1859, and began the practice of his profess

ion in the spring of 1860 in Rome under the firm name of Greene & Prescott, which continued until January 1, 1865. After spending the years 1865 and 1866 in traveling through the South and West he went to New York in January, 1867, as financial clerk for a wholesale establishment. In the spring of 1868 he returned to Rome and in June formed a co-partnership with D. Minor K. Johnson, formerly of the firm of Foster, Johnson, Boardman & Lynch, under the style of Johnson & Prescott. This firm continued a large law practice until Mr. Johnson's death in July, 1886. Mr. Prescott remained alone till August 1, 1895, when the present copartnership of Prescott & Titus was formed by the admission of Charles T. Titus.

Mr. Prescott has been a staunch Republican since the organization of that party. He has always taken an active interest in political affairs, and has frequently been called to positions of trust and responsibility. He was adjutant of the 101st Regt. N. Y. State Militia for a time, was alderman from the Fifth ward of Rome one term, member and secretary of the Board of Education three years, and in 1878 represented this district in the assembly, where he was chairman of the committee on railroads. In the fall of 1878 and again in 1880 he was elected to Congress by handsome majorities, which attested his popularity throughout this congressional district. In the 46th Congress, during his second term, he was chairman of the celebrated committee on apportionment and brought in the bill for reapportioning the membership of the various States. This was the leading feature of that session, and the part Mr. Prescott bore in the long and bitter fight which ensued redounds to his lasting credit. So far as New York State was concerned his bill was passed without material change. He drew up and secured the passage in the 45th Congress of a bill authorizing the appropriation of \$5,000 for the construction of the Oriskany monument in honor of General Herkimer. Among the various important committees of which he was a member was the committee on the improvement of the Mississippi River, and in this connection he was one of five commissioners appointed by Congress to inspect and report upon the condition of the levees along that stream below St. Louis. In both Congresses he had charge of several measures affecting his county, all of which became laws. His legislative career, both as assemblyman and as representative, was characterized by untiring faithfulness to public trust and by continued watchfulness over the interests of his constituents. As a citizen he has always encouraged every project which promised benefit to the community.

June 21, 1867, Mr. Prescott was married to Miss Eliza F. Cady, a native of Madison county, and a daughter of Daniel Cady, of Yonkers, N. Y., but formerly of Rome. They have four children: G. Linnemann, a graduate of the Rome Academy and now a resident of Rome; Elizabeth C. (Mrs. Clifton B. White), of Brooklyn, N. Y.; and Mabelle T. and Ruth Andrea, at home.

W. J. P. KINGSLEY, M.D.

WILLEY J. P. KINGSLEY, M.D., mayor of the city of Rome, N. Y., a son of Obediah and Lovina (Tucker) Kingsley, and was born on a farm in Frankfort, Herkimer county, four miles east of Utica, on July 9, 1824. His grandfather, Jedediah Kings-

ley, came from Rhode Island to Utica when that city contained but one frame building; he soon moved to Herkimer county and died there.

Dr. Kingsley obtained his education by his own efforts. Reared on a farm amid the deprivations of the pioneer life of those early days his advantages at district schools were necessarily limited, but by continued exertion he was enabled to attend Whitestown Seminary, from which he was graduated. He read medicine with Drs. Charles B. Coventry and D. G. Thomas, of Utica, and took a two years' course at the Geneva Medical College. In March, 1855, he was graduated with the degree of M.D. from the New York Medical College and the same year began the practice of his profession in Utica. In the spring of 1856 he came to Rome, where he has ever since resided. For many years he was engaged in a large general surgical practice, having at one time a more extensive professional business than any other physician in the city. Finally cancer cases presented themselves in such constantly increasing numbers that he was obliged to devote most of his time to their treatment, and eventually abandoned his family practice altogether. He now confines his attention exclusively to the treatment of cancer, chronic diseases, and to surgery, having specially equipped hospitals for the purpose. He has treated over 40,000 cancer cases, and enjoys almost a world wide reputation for skill and success.

Dr. Kingsley has been president of the Farmers' National Bank since its organization, and was president of its predecessor, the Bank of Rome, which was incorporated as a State bank in 1865. He was one of the incorporators of the Central New York Institution for Deaf Mutes in Rome in 1875 and served as its vice-president until 1895, when he was elected president. He was president of the old Rome Iron Works and is now vice-president of the Rome Brass and Copper Company, the Rome Cemetery Association, and the Jervis Literary Association. He was one of the directors of the locomotive works, and is heavily interested in many other business enterprises. He is the largest individual tax payer in the city. In charitable and benevolent movements he is always a prominent factor, and no project promising benefit to the community fails to receive his substantial aid and encouragement. Public spirited, enterprising, liberal, and kind hearted, he is widely respected as a citizen as well as a successful physician. The Y. M. C. A., the City Hospital, and numerous other similar objects, as well as nearly every important commercial or manufacturing enterprise, have felt the impulse of his aid and benevolence. In politics he has always been a staunch Republican, but has never sought office or public preferment. At the charter election in March, 1895, he was elected mayor of the city of Rome, though a Democratic stronghold, by a handsome majority, and his service in that capacity has been characterized by fidelity, impartiality, and general satisfaction.

December 4, 1860, Dr. Kingsley was married to Miss Georgeanna M. Vogel, daughter of Henry C. Vogel, D.D., for many years pastor of the Baptist church at Rome. They have had three sons: Burt A., who died aged two years, three months, and thirteen days; George L., who was graduated from Yale College in 1886 and from Harvard Medical College in 1890, appointed house surgeon to the Massachusetts General Hospital, and died there September 25, 1890; and Willey L., also a graduate of Yale College, class of 1886, and of Harvard Medical College in 1890, who, after receiving his diploma as M.D., formed a partnership with his father under the style of W. J. P. Kingsley & Son, which still continues. In 1891 Dr. and Mrs. Kingsley

erected in the Rome Cemetery a handsome memorial chapel, and in the same year equipped the new gymnasium of Yale University at New Haven, Conn., both in memory of their deceased son, Dr. George L.

GORDON N. BISSELL.

GORDON NEEDHAM BISSELL was born in Onondaga county, N. Y., September 17 1806, and spent his early life at Onondaga Hollow near Syracuse, where his father, Dr. John Devotion Bissell, was a pioneer physician. The family is of French Huguenot descent, and immediately after the massacre of St. Bartholomew in 1572 many of the name fled to England to escape persecution. Their coat of arms, which was of a religious rather than of a warlike character, is thus described in Burke's "Complete Armory:" "Bissell, *Gu.* on a bend, *or.*; three escallops, *sa.* *Crest,* a demi-eagle with wings displayed, *sa.*: charged on neck with an escallop shell, *or.*" The first and only one of the name known to have come to America was John Bissell, who, tradition asserts, arrived with his family at Plymouth, Mass., from Somersetshire, England, in 1628. In 1639 he was one of a prospecting party authorized to select a site for a colony in what is now Connecticut and the next year he became one of the founders of Windsor, where he received the monopoly of the Scantic Ferry. He was the first settler on the east side of the Connecticut river and died in 1677, aged eighty-six, leaving children whose posterity are numerous, energetic, and respected unto the present day. The ancestry of Gordon N. Bissell is as follows: (1) John, the pioneer; (2) John, jr., died 1693; (3) Daniel, born 1663, died 1738; (4) Ezekiel, born 1705, died in Torrington, Conn.; (5) Ebenezer, born 1743, married Lucy Roberts; (6) Dr. John D., who in old age moved to Chicago, Ill., and died in September, 1856; and (7) Gordon N. Dr. Bissell married Elizabeth Forman, of Onondaga Valley, whose brother, Judge Joshua Forman, was an early influential citizen of Onondaga county, and the maternal grandfather of Gov. Horatio Seymour.

Gordon N. Bissell was educated at the Onondaga Academy and spent several years of his early manhood with Judge Forman in North Carolina. In 1837 he came to Rome, Oneida county, and commenced the construction of the Black River canal as a contractor, and two years later removed to North Western, where he also opened a general store. In the fall of 1842 work was suspended on the canal and in February, 1843, Mr. Bissell, after disposing of his mercantile business, returned to Rome, where he purchased the drug store of Dr. H. H. Pope. The following summer he formed a partnership with Benjamin N. Leonard, under the style of Bissell & Leonard, and consolidated the drug business of Chesebro & Leonard with his own. In 1844 the firm moved to what is now 117 West Dominick street, where the establishment has ever since been located, and known as the checkered store. After Mr. Leonard's death in June, 1853, Mr. Bissell continued alone until his oldest son, Charles F., attained his majority, when the firm became G. N. Bissell & Son. In April, 1862, Charles F. withdrew and another son, John G., was admitted. In 1883 Mr. Bissell retired and the business was continued by John G. Bissell and James A. Owens, as J. G. Bissell & Co., until July 1, 1895, when Mr. Owens withdrew, leaving the proprietorship in the hands of John G. Bissell, the present owner.

Mr. Bissell was for many years actively identified with the banking interests of Rome. He was a director and for some time the vice-president of the old Bank of Rome and one of the organizers of the Rome Exchange Bank (now the First National), of which he was several years the president. He was for many years president of the Rome Savings Bank and of the Rome Gas Light Company, holding both positions at the time of his death, which occurred February 19, 1891. He was one of the chief promoters and organizers of the Rome Iron Works (now the Rome Brass and Copper Company) and also of the Rome Cemetery Association, of which he was long a trustee.

In all public improvements and enterprises he took a great interest, and worked for the prosperity and advancement of the city. He was an advocate of plank roads in early days, and later of railroads, manufacturing industries and all that promoted the welfare of the town. He was one of the best known and most respected citizens of Rome; a man of rare personal worth, and held in high esteem. His name was the synonym for integrity, honesty, and fair dealing; his religion he took with him into all his business relations. He was noted for his earnestness, his honesty of purpose, his perfect candor, and his fairness; he would allow no imposition upon any person with whom he did business or came into contact. He represented all things exactly as they were, and rather than allow his customer to suffer he would himself take the consequences.

Mr. Bissell was a Democrat in politics, but never wanted office, although he was frequently urged to accept nominations. His only public position was that of village trustee. He was one of the oldest members of Zion Episcopal church, and for thirty years was vestryman or warden. When he wished to retire on account of advancing years, a short time before his death, his colleagues, in recognition of his judgment and experience, made him warden emeritus.

February 3, 1829, Mr. Bissell married Miss Luthera Ward, daughter of William Ward, a pioneer of Manlius, Onondaga county. She was born February 3, 1808, and died September 20, 1856, leaving six children who attained majority, viz.: Mary L., Margaret A., John G., and Laura (Mrs. Frank B. Haff), of Rome; Charles F., of Austin, Texas; and William W., of New Rochelle, N. Y.

JAMES H. SEARLES.

THE subject of this sketch was born in Belleville, Jefferson county, N. Y., August 6, 1832. He was the son of Martha Gott Ransom and James H. Searles, who was a leading merchant in the town of Ellisburgh many years. Mr. Searles came to Rome January 1, 1867, since which time he has been in the banking, real estate and insurance business. A zealous, broad natured citizen, always in sympathy with any good and able enterprise that might be for public advancement.

He was twice married. First, to Frances Barrilla, daughter of Ebenezer and Mollie Stark Webster, June 19, 1859. Three children were born by that union—James Webster Searles, of Salt Lake City, Utah, Katherine Mary, wife of Dr. Jay Hathaway Utley, of Los Angeles, California, and Jenny Frances, born April 29, 1860, at

Kalamazoo, Mich., died October 12, 1880. Second to Eloise Catherine, daughter of John Milton and Mary Abbott Rumney, April 18, 1872. Four children were born to them: John Rumney Searles, Charles Noble Searles, Elizabeth Porter Searles, and Martha Eloise Searles, born February 4, 1879, at Rome, died February 23, 1880. Eloise C. Searles is a grand niece of Newton Mann, whose portrait appears in this work.

WILLIAM E. SCRIPTURE.

HON. WILLIAM E. SCRIPTURE, justice of the Supreme Court, was born in the town of Westmoreland, Oneida county, N. Y., November 2, 1843. He descends, on his father's side, from Sterling Welsh ancestry, whose first American representative emigrated to this country and settled in New Hampshire about the year 1700. His grandfather, Hiram Scripture, was a native of Tolland county, Conn., and in 1797 came to Westmoreland, where he married, in March, 1798, Miss Elizabeth Parker, a native of Boston, whose parents were born in Ireland. He died there, aged seventy-seven, as did also his wife, at the age of ninety-three. Her family settled in Westmoreland about 1794. Parker A. Scripture, son of Hiram, was born in that town October 23, 1814, spent his life upon a farm there, and in 1874 came to Rome, where he was accidentally killed October 26, 1875. He married Miss Harriet Standish Snow, daughter of Wilson Snow, who survives him. She was born in Plymouth, Mass., and is a lineal descendant of Capt. Miles Standish, one of the Pilgrims of the Mayflower and captain of the Plymouth colony, whom Longfellow immortalized in the celebrated poem, "The Courtship of Miles Standish." She is also descended from the Murdock family, whose ancestor came over soon after 1620. They had three children: Sarah E. (Mrs. C. H. Steele), William E., and Phebe P.

Judge Scripture was reared on the parental farm in Westmoreland and in early life attended the district schools of that town. He was graduated from Whitestown Seminary in 1865 and in the fall of that year entered Hamilton College in the class of 1869. Illness, however, compelled him to give up a cherished collegiate course and turn his attention to healthier exercise. By the autumn of 1866 his health was sufficiently restored to enable him to enter the Albany Law School, where he was admitted to the bar in May, 1867. He then came to Rome as managing clerk in the law office of Beach & Bailey, whence he left in January, 1868 to begin the active practice of his profession in Canastota, N. Y., under the firm name of Hutchius & Scripture. In the fall of that year he returned to Rome, where he has ever since resided. Here he first resumed practice under the name of Weld & Scripture, but one year later formed a copartnership with Homer T. Fowler as Scripture & Fowler. Subsequently he was associated with George H. Weaver, E. M. Pavey, and O. P. Backus, and since 1892 has practiced alone.

Judge Scripture is widely recognized as an able, conscientious, and reliable counselor, well versed in the practice of the law, and qualified by nature for a successful and influential advocate. An unswerving Republican he has for several years taken an active part in politics, working for the good of his party as one of its popular leaders. For nearly four years he served as postmaster at Rome under

President Harrison, and in November, 1895, was elected justice of the Supreme Court by the largest majority given to any candidate in this district on the Republican ticket.

In August, 1867, Judge Scripture was married to Miss Emma C. Goodwin, daughter of Israel F. Goodwin, of Westmoreland. They have had eight children: May Standish, Mina Emma, Ella Goodwin, Emma Harriet, Ruth, Vina, Parker Fairfield, and William.

J. ARTHUR SMITH, V. S.

J. ARTHUR SMITH, V. S., was born and reared in the town of Westmoreland, Oneida county. He now owns and occupies the homestead of both his father and grandfather. They came to the town in 1842 and purchased the farm lying southwest of Rome in the most fertile and attractive part of the county. They came from Chester, England, and were from the most intelligent and thrifty stock of that country. James Smith, father of the subject of this sketch and portrait herewith, was also a veterinary surgeon before coming to this country, having attained an advanced standing in the profession. He continued in the practice during his life in Westmoreland and was counted one of the most successful in Oneida county. He was well known throughout a wide region of territory. Besides this he was among the foremost farmers of the State. He was industrious, prudent and prosperous, and moreover an upright, respected citizen. His ideas of thrift in farming, which had been a part of his education in England, were applied in the same line here, with the result that he made and developed one of the finest and most valuable farm properties to be found among the many attractive farm realties in the town. He was also an extensive dealer in horses, and invested considerable money in the business. He married Mary Ann Gypson, of Westmoreland, by whom he had three sons, Willard R., Charles G., and James Arthur. Willard R. is a resident of Buffalo, N. Y., and Charles G. is in business in Chicago. Dr. James Smith, the father, died in 1891; Mrs. Smith, his wife, is still living.

Dr. J. Arthur Smith was born on this homestead May 11, 1861, where he has spent the greater part of his life. He received the rudiments of his education at the district school in Westmoreland and afterwards took a course at the old Whitestown Seminary. Subsequently he attended the New York Veterinary College with the view to continuing the profession in which both his father and grandfather had achieved success. He has therefore grown up in the practice, and this long experience and thorough knowledge of the science has given him the foundation for his unusual success. But in addition to this he carries on the farm with quite as much or more ability as those who devote themselves to that one industry.

Dr. Smith is an earnest Republican in politics and always takes a deep interest in the party's behalf.

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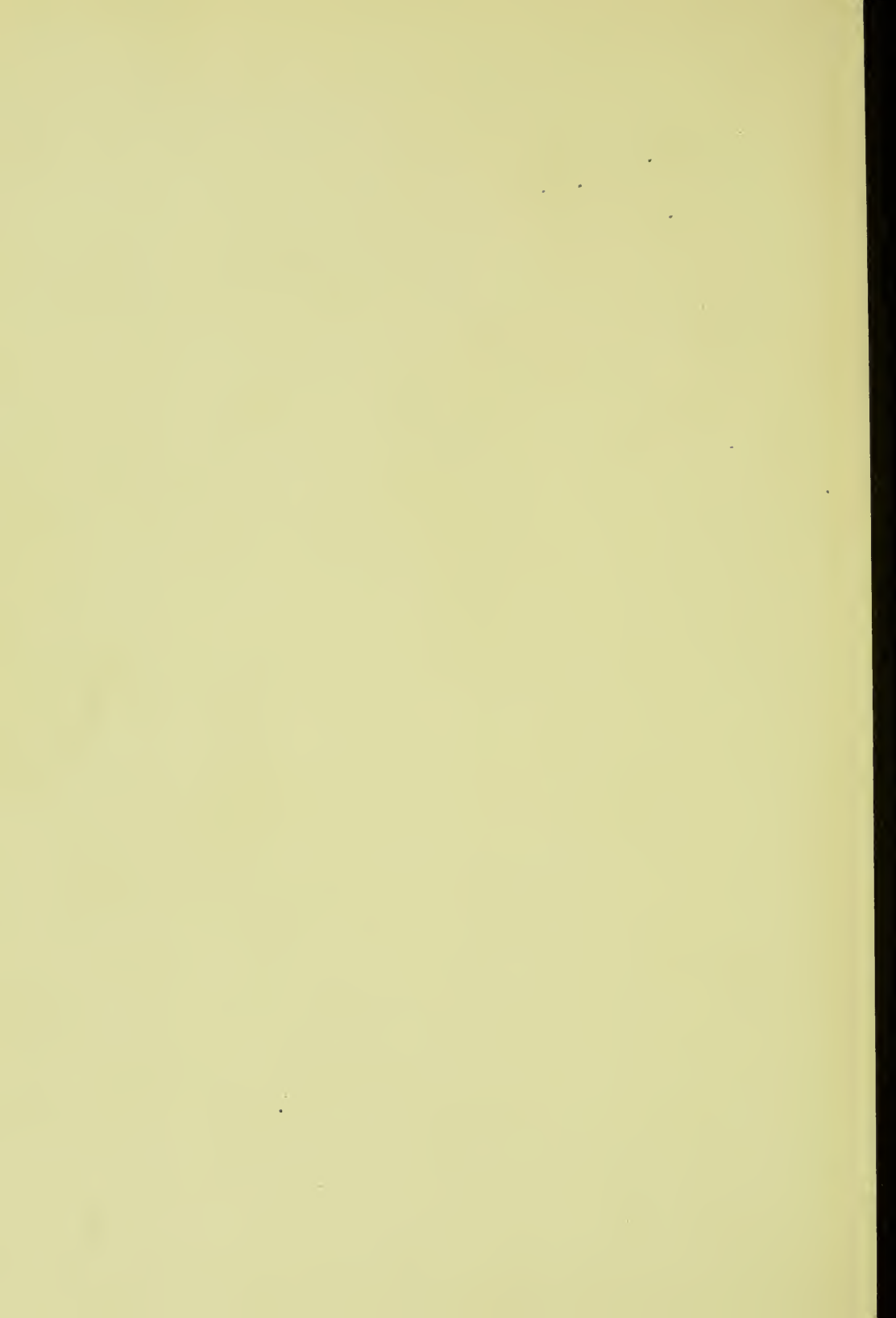
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